

Libraries

(A Continuation of Public Libraries)

Vol. 32

July, 1927

No. 7

The Presidential Address of 1927

Dr George H. Locke, chief librarian Public library, Toronto, Canada

In the comprehensive address of my predecessor in the presidential office, on the occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the American Library Association, the history and achievements of those fifty years were adequately portrayed. With the vision of a Moses he viewed the Promised Land and suggested how that land might be possessed and made to bring forth exceeding great riches for the betterment of individual endeavor and social welfare. Unlike, however, the great law-giver of Israel, he is still with us in our march into the Promised Land, and we hope that he will live long enough to see a series of Joshuas leading on towards conquest—for the land will never be wholly won and there will always be social problems to solve which need the intelligent direction which librarians should aim to give.

We have heard so often from the platform and in the press the statement that this institution with which we are identified is educational in its scope, that this is in danger of becoming a platitude, and I can imagine no worse fate than that we should tolerate platitudes, those fervent statements on the platform which deal in generalities and which not only do not land us anywhere but drug men's minds till they cannot see what action is really called for, and still less to rise to any action.

It is much easier to mount on wings like eagles than to walk and not faint.

But a real danger that comes from the looseness of thought and expression is that we turn disgusted to the other extreme and revert in practice to the old idea—a false idea—that education is a state that some day will be reached, after which no further effort will be required. We forget that education is a process that is ever going on. Were it not so there would be much less excuse for the presence of such an institution as the library.

While there is not a librarian here who cannot point out some distinctly educational feature which is characteristic of some library, we have felt the difficulty of making this felt generally, so that it would be accorded public and social recognition. Now I rejoice that such has come to pass and at the very heart of things. It seems to me that one of the notable and encouraging events of the year was the public recognition of the library as an educational institution by the establishment of "chairs" in connection with the National Library at Washington. Dr Herbert Putnam, in whose regret at being absent tonight we all join, speaks of the chairs of fine arts and American history which have been founded at Washington. We have been living within sound of the oft-

repeated statement that the librarian of today was not merely a custodian. Here is proof of it, and I hope we all shall live to see chairs and teachers, men who know what has been collected out of the past in their respective fields and have the interest and ability to interpret these for the inquiring student.

Here are laboratories which have been only partially used, and now here is the precedent so dear to all the English speaking world. The work has begun, and at the National library. The recognition of this at the center means much to the development of our professional standards. It is a great step forward.

I was very much interested and encouraged by a symptom of the same movement when not long ago a professor wrote an article in one of our leading periodicals in which as a protest against platoon and bulk education with its elaborate equipment, he said that he would like to have a desk in a college library and have come to him all the odd boys in the college, those who were ahead in some subject, and restless, or were losing faith in themselves because of failure in some subject. He would like to advise them and let them work out in the library—really a laboratory—along with him, their own plans. That would be a most interesting and fascinating job, one we can do in our institutions, and indeed it is today being attempted with gratifying success even in our public libraries.

When the school laid undue emphasis upon instruction we were in danger of going to the other extreme of ignoring the definite side and allowing ourselves to drift upon the vast sea of education with little regard to direction or equipment. The matter of material equipment was greatly helped by the ship-subsidy policy of the Carnegie trust, and soon the harbors were full of library craft with everything furnished for a voyage, but with no very definite objective, and with sailors full of zeal, but lacking in technical knowledge.

When the situation became acute we were again subsidized by providing means whereby the individuals might be technically trained, and standards were set up to the intent that none should go aboard who were not up to the minimum standard. There were many among us who wondered whether the standardization of ships, equipment, and finally of individuals, would not make necessary a standardization of wind and wave so that these ships could stand only the kind of gales which they were constructed to withstand—and any unusual winds, any sudden blows not in the almanac, might mean difficulties if not disaster. To guard against such things we were told that we should get an efficient organization which would investigate all possible and imaginable terrors, analyze and classify these and, having the efficient chart we would be equal to any emergency.

But are we?

Is human life and human conduct capable of being analyzed to that extent! Fortunately it is not, and therefore there are still some who believe that life is an adventure, that today is no index of what tomorrow may be, and that all things are not discoverable by the analytic process. There are, to be sure, the great liners—the great libraries—with their magnificent equipment of lecture halls, marble salons, à la carte dining rooms and all the modern conveniences.

McCullagh, 'e wanted cabins
With marble and maple and all,
And Brussels and Utrecht velvet,
And baths and a social hall.

But there always will be the little cargo boats plying up and down—the little cargo boats that "haven't any man," which, unlike the great liners which plough the seas, have to struggle against head winds, have to tack and sail a devious course, ere they are able to deliver their little cargo. Those who love adventure will travel in these smaller craft and perchance the cargo will be as useful as that delivered by the great liners. It will give pleasure and bring aid to many who are not liv-

ing in the great harbors which are able to dock and support the deep draft ships with their varied freight.

And now we are all at sea—and temptation to sail on is very strong—the spirit of adventure and romance lures one on and makes him feel that he might carry his audience with him to the fabled lands and smiling isles “where the trumpet orchids blow.”

But we are an association of persons engaged in a great practical work. We are living in an age when more than ever education is given not by schools and teachers only but by social institutions, the newspapers and periodicals, the movies and cinemas, the Y. M. C. A., the correspondence study, the clubs and even the churches who too have had to lend themselves to the movement, and adapt themselves to the social tendencies of the age so that they may compete with the outside social forces—and not least of all the agencies for education in the library.

We have shared in the marvellous growth of social and educational institutions which marks the last ten years, especially in America. We are face to face today with the situation that confronts institutions which grow fast and flourish. We find ourselves with more than 10,000 members, scattered over a continent, and that this vast body may have direction, we have developed an organization that seems to many of the older persons, who remember the days of our youth, to be formidable in numbers and dangerous in possibilities of power. It is one of the penalties of “big business” and there are some who fear that this organization of effort may result in diminution of interest and loss of personal leadership.

It is a real problem, and, after a term in the presidential chair, I am convinced more than ever that it would be a wise step for us to adopt a two years' term of office for the leader of our association. If that is not done the power of the president may grow less and less, and the power of the organization known as the general staff—the more or less permanent officials—may proportionately increase. I have

nothing but praise for the excellent work of the permanent officials, but I think that there will always be a need for personal leadership in a social institution which has for its aim the development of character and intelligent citizenship. The continuity of policy can be taken care of by the permanent officials, but the theoretical outlook, if you would call it such, calls for the unfettered idealism of a leader. This cannot be accomplished by a yearly tenure of office, and it is quite conceivable that the president might become a mere figurehead to approve the actions of the permanent officials. When that comes the Association will have lost the personal interest and leadership that is necessary for intelligent progress.

It may be that there is a corollary to this proposal in that meetings of a general nature such as we are holding here might be held biennially, and that regional meetings might be held in the intervening year, having regard to the vast extent of country which we cover, and to the fact that any one of a half dozen regional meetings which I can imagine, would be larger in point of attendance than the A. L. A. of twenty years ago.

Another problem which seems to be facing us is the recognition that the endowment given by the Carnegie Trust is not only a means whereby we may be stronger financially, but it carries a responsibility placed upon us to see that our use of this endowment be made to affect favorably the social and educational life of America.

In other words we must realize that the results of our expenditures should justify the faith that was reposed in us which led the people to give us that endowment.

And just here may I say that this is no time to relax our efforts to make provision for the future. The work grows apace, the necessities have grown with our changing social life, and we feel the need of additional funds just as much as before we received the princely gift. Truly “new occasions teach new duties.” The num-

ber of things we are doing seems large, but the very fact that we are engaged in so many pursuits has awakened the people to needs which formerly they thought were unsolvable in this generation. These needs are pressing upon us today, and hence our efforts will have to be directed not only to a thorough organization of what we are now doing, but towards the development of plans by which we may meet the ever increasing tasks which people are urging us to undertake. So far as I can see from the history of the Association we never were in need of such wise counsel and intelligent effort as we are today.

An illustration of one of our internal problems is that of the development of the movement for libraries in our schools. One of the roots of our institution was that which grew from the conviction that education through books was necessary for boys and girls, and in the early days of our history, collections of books were in our schools. These gradually dwindled in number and in power, because they had no organization and no interpreter, except in isolated instances of some enthusiastic teachers. Then came the development of libraries for boys and girls in connection with the public libraries. This movement took such hold of the public that its very success led our school friends to recognize that a powerful educational help had been lost to them by their neglect, and today we face the problem that there is a strong, active demand that there be established school libraries as well equipped and as well manned as are the departments of our public libraries.

What will be the relationship of these libraries to our public libraries? I know of no problem that requires more intelligent research and more careful adjustment if the interests of education in the larger sense are to be conserved, and intelligent progress is to be provided.

I have mentioned these practical problems because I have an inherent dread of over organization, of the dulling of individual effort, of the develop-

ment of a standardized system of education, all of which I think are subversive of democracy.

I have refrained from mentioning the great works now in progress.

1) The study of how the libraries can reach and attract those of adult age.

And just here may I quote from an address by the Prime Minister of Great Britain:

I have a peculiar sympathy with adult education because I have followed it to the best of my ability all my life. I was very much interested to find a peculiar instance recently of that interest which all English people take in education, not always instructed, but always present, because when I became Prime Minister, a well-known lady in society, whose acquaintance I had not had the pleasure of making, asked this question of a friend of mine: "Is the new Prime Minister what you would call an educated man?" I doubt very much whether she knew what was implied by the word "educated"; but it showed, at any rate, that she felt that education was a good thing in itself, and a thing which should be possessed by any one aspiring to the post of Prime Minister. That is all to the good. But I expect that all of you have learned, as I have, that education is a process and a thing that is never finished; and it is a wonderful thing that here, in this movement, we find one more instance in our history of that triumph of voluntary effort from which have sprung all the best movements and the best things in our country from the beginning of its history. You take a movement like the Boy Scouts; it did not originate in the War Office. You take the Salvation Army; it did not come from Canterbury. The Franciscans did not come from Rome; and in the same way this great movement for adult education did not take its origin in Whitehall. It sprang—where all these things have sprung from—it sprang from the very heart of the people, and that is what gives it its strength, and that is what is going to continue to give power to the movement.

2) How those in isolated districts of our great continent may relieve their loneliness, and share in the pleasures of ambition. The gramophone took music to them, and now the radio takes current news and music. Shall we be behind in furnishing what is really the background for the enjoyment of these?

3) And there is also the problem of the adequate education of those who

are to manage these great institutions of education, those who are to interpret the messages of those who have contributed to our printed literature.

All these and more are the continuing problems of our Association, and the interim deliverances of the commissions of investigation are before you at this meeting for your study and consideration.

It is of the utmost importance that we realize that these commissions to which we have delegated the investigation of educational affairs are to a very great extent independent of all other boards and committees. There is a danger in government by commissions. The sins of commission, you will remember, are to be avoided as well as the sins of omission, and to be really successful we must have responsible government. We have had the experience once or twice this year in the Executive Board of seeming to be but a ratifying or concurring body, after the act had been performed.

There is also the danger of excessive standardization and thinking of librarianship in terms of formulas.

I am not anxious to be connected with only an efficient institution—one logically complete—but I want always to be part of an institution that is effective—where there is not only a sustaining power but a stimulating influence which urges experiment and rewards individual development, which buries failures even with the turf, and invites all to celebrate the victories of one another.

What every institution needs is the pioneer spirit. We can't be pioneers in action in the sense that our fathers were—times have greatly changed—but we can be pioneers in spirit and transfer the impulse of conquest from

the physical to the social and educational life. Sometimes we are too near the description given by Dean Inge when in lamenting the decay of the pioneer spirit, he commented upon the well known hymn:

They climbed the steep ascent to Heaven
Through peril, toil and pain.

and said that too often today we are content "to follow in the train."

The great task of this generation is to save democracy, to preserve it, and to inspire it. We represent a great democratic institution which can furnish not only the material resources by which this may be greatly aided, but we are reaching out to furnish interpreters of these resources so that individuals may equip themselves for intelligent service by becoming acquainted with the ideals that have inspired men to serve, and also that they may acquire the knowledge that will enable them to exercise a right judgment in all things.

I recognize that democracy and democratic government call for harder work and higher education and further vision than any form of government in the world. And yet isn't the ideal worth while, and can't we as a great social and educational institution, manned by educated and enthusiastic members, do something worth while towards the realization of this ideal! True, one has moments of despair when he reads of the many failures, but when I am in that mood I think of those lines of Massingham:

For like a child sent with a fluttering light
To feel his way along a gusty night,
Man walks the world. Again and yet again
The lamp shall be by fits of passion slain:
But shall not He who sent him from the
door
Relight the lamp once more—and yet once
more.

Salvaging the Specialist

Fred Telford, director of the Bureau of Public Personnel administration,
Washington, D. C.

To me the most surprising discovery in connection with the work of the committee on the Classification of library personnel was that trained librarians who have specialized in their work frequently take up new specialties. I was well aware of the fact that there is considerable specialization in library work and that the trained librarian who knows a great deal about literature for children, for example, might be wholly unfamiliar with religious treatises published in the eighteenth century. I knew also that a large number of those engaged in library work are in a manner of speaking birds of passage flitting about from city to city, not exactly with the seasons but certainly with considerable freedom. I was wholly unprepared, however, to find that the trained librarian who last year was doing children's work, apparently with a considerable degree of success, might be found this year handing out books to adults at a loan desk, next year giving assistance to a rather crotchety lot of readers wanting help with metaphysical problems, and the following year cataloging current fiction. The more I think about such a state of affairs the more shocking it seems to me and the more I am convinced that the library profession in making it possible—perhaps it would be more accurate to say in making it necessary—for its members to skip about from specialty to specialty in this fashion is placing itself under a tremendous handicap.

In order to make clear just what I have in mind I should like to cite a few concrete cases. Each of these cases is selected with some care to show what happens to a considerable group of people engaged in library work. I hesitate to say that they are typical of library workers in general; nevertheless, they do illustrate what happens to large numbers. I shall outline briefly the library career of five per-

sons in such terms that even the individuals concerned will not be able to recognize themselves.

Miss A started as a children's librarian in a large city library about 1915. Two years later, apparently in order to secure for herself a higher salary, she went to another city and began work in a high-school library. After two more years, in order to secure \$150 additional salary, she went to still another city but returned to children's work. By 1920, however, she apparently concluded that she had realized all the possibilities in that field without being able to earn enough money to live in accordance with her standards. Accordingly, she went to a fourth city and started out anew in the reference department; she is now doing specialized work in the fine arts division.

Miss B for some 13 years has been working in a library. She started out as general assistant in a branch, was transferred to work in the children's room of the main library, became assistant in the reference department, and now fills an important post in the reference department.

Miss C likewise has worked in only one large city library. She started in as a substitute but after two years began to do children's work. This for some reason did not prove satisfactory, so she became a cataloger. Apparently in order to earn more money—her questionnaire indicates that at this point her salary was increased to \$5 a month—she gave up cataloging work and went into the art department, where she remains in an important position today.

Miss D began work in the children's room of the main library of a large city in 1908. After four years she went to a larger city, working in the circulation department. Two years later she secured employment at an increased salary as cataloger in a college

library. She left this position to take a course in a library school; upon the completion of this course she resumed cataloging work in the large city in which she started her library career. For the sake of an increase of \$60 a year—and perhaps because she had the wanderlust—she transferred to another city 2,000 miles away, this time doing combined catalog and reference work. After two years she moved to a nearby city which had a somewhat higher salary scale and became general assistant in the circulation department. In order to earn more money she soon transferred to a college library, but after less than a year there moved on to another college which offered her more money to act as chief librarian. Soon she returned a second time to one of the libraries where she had already been employed to do cataloging work, but this time to take charge of the music department. It would be charitable, I presume, to say that she had always had a love of music and an overwhelming desire to make the treasures of musical literature available for music lovers; I suspect, however, that the real reason for her taking up a new specialty was the fact that a \$200 salary increase was offered her.

Miss E began work as assistant in the children's room of a large public library and was soon promoted to have charge of the children's work. In order to secure a substantial increase in salary, she first transferred to school work in a different city, then back to children's work, and then to a responsible post in the order department. Then, apparently for the sake of larger earnings, she secured a position as head of a branch library. Substantial increases in salary marked successive appointments first as chief librarian at a certain post in the federal service of the United States and then in a hospital library. Evidently she then fell upon evil days, because for a time she was not engaged in library work at all; her next and final post, however, was in a new field—impor-

tant cataloging work in a large public library.

I know of nothing to match this kind of intellectual waste except the manner in which the people of the United States have acted the spendthrift in dealing with their natural resources. No other profession with which I am acquainted has many members who go from specialty to specialty within their profession in this manner. A physician, for example, who specializes in diseases of the eye, ear, and throat, does not become successively a general practitioner, a neurologist, and a gynecologist. The young man who in college prepares himself to do bridge designing is not likely later to become first an electrical engineer, then an architect, and then a mechanical engineer. The lawyer who starts out in general practice may develop into a corporation lawyer, a criminal lawyer, a patent lawyer, or any one of a dozen other specialists but he does not try his hand first at one and then another of these specialties. In all these professions there are general practitioners who, because of opportunity or talent, develop into specialists and with the passage of years become ever more and more specialized. Only in rare cases, however, does the specialist in these fields, after he has invested years in learning much of what is to be known regarding his specialty, throw away what he has picked up and start on another specialty.

With its wealth of intelligence the library group apparently has done well despite the state of affairs I have described. Such wanton waste of knowledge which can be gained only thru extensive educational courses or long experience, however, cannot but be a tremendous handicap even to a group as intellectually fortunate as the librarians. At various times I have thought I perceived within the profession considerable resentment that able and ambitious individuals, in order to get ahead financially and professionally, must give up a specialty which they have spent years in mastering in order to take up a new specialty which holds

out hope of somewhat greater remuneration or possibility of professional recognition. In fact, I am inclined to believe that a considerable number of those engaged in library work are devoting considerable thought to means of preventing this constant shifting. I doubt whether any one person can do more than indicate some of the remedies but I should like to point out some things which may be helpful.

I feel quite sure that it is an attitude of mind rather than lack of money or any other uncontrollable circumstances which makes it necessary for a good many librarians to change their specialty. If a number of the libraries that employed Miss D, for example, had really wished to retain her services, they probably could have made it worth her while to stay with them. Likewise, if there had been a will there would have been found a way to keep Miss C in cataloging work when she shifted to art work for the apparent sake of an increase in salary of \$5 a month. As long as library administrators are content to have their competent, ambitious assistants drop one specialty to take up another, there are the best of reasons for believing that pretty frequent shifting will take place. As soon as library administrators generally recognize the losses involved in such changes, a good deal of the shifting will very quickly cease.

This attitude of mind has most unexpected ramifications. I have been unable to discover any good reason, for example, why a competent librarian doing children's work in a branch might not be promoted to branch librarian; those in the library profession with whom I have talked over the matter have seldom urged any inherent reason but rather have pointed out that this particular type of promotion is not commonly made or considered feasible. The branch librarian in any case must give a certain fraction of the time available to administrative work. I have not heard any good reason, however, why it is more serious for a person employed in the branch to take this time for administrative tasks from

work with children than it is to take the same amount of time from work with adults. Opening up the post of branch librarian to those engaged in children's work would not entirely prevent the present wastage of those who by education and experience are qualified to do good children's work but it would provide an avenue for promotion which would materially reduce the wastage. Undoubtedly there are many other such opportunities of promoting the specialist but keeping him working in his chosen field of which I with my meager information know nothing.

Another method of salvaging the specialist is to provide working conditions such that he can do a moderate amount of research work. The very traits that make a person desire to be a specialist cause him to set great store by the opportunity to work in and extend that particular field of knowledge. Many a specialist has been kept happy for years simply by allowing him to develop that specialty. It is unfair, in my opinion, to take undue advantage of an individual or group in this fashion but within the limits this is the world's method and I know of no reason why it should not be used in library work just as it is in other professions.

There can be no final solution to this problem, in my opinion, until means are found to give professional and financial recognition to the library specialist. As long as the professional honors and the financial rewards go almost entirely to those holding administrative posts, it cannot reasonably be hoped that library specialists will refrain, when they find themselves out in the cold, professionally or financially, from trying something else. It is highly significant, I believe, that the membership of the important committees of the American Library Association is composed almost entirely of library administrators. The committee on the Classification of library personnel, for example, with which the Bureau of Public Personnel administration worked in making an attack on a highly technical problem, contained in

its membership not a single library specialist without extensive administrative duties. It is equally significant that among the 6000 questionnaires collected from 150 different libraries less than half a dozen specialists without administrative duties were found to receive as much as \$2500 a year, if the positions in the Library of Congress are excluded. In a word, the library profession as at present organized has few financial rewards and few posts of honor for the specialist. As a consequence, it has few specialists except those who flit about from one specialty to another and who very generally, after a few years, if they have ambition and ability, decide to go into administrative work.

It is common practice in library circles to frown when any plan providing for proper payment of professional workers is seriously proposed. Quite often, indeed, I have heard librarians

express the view, both publicly and privately, that those engaged in library work should forget all about money and do their work to the best of their ability regardless of their financial rewards. As many of you know, this is a point of view with which I have not the slightest sympathy. In the long run certainly, and in the short run usually, any profession attracts to itself the order of talent to which it gives professional recognition and to which it offers reasonable remuneration. It is as true in the twentieth century as it was in biblical days that the laborer is worthy of his hire. If the library profession wishes to attract, develop, and retain specialists of the scholarly and research type who have few or no administrative responsibilities, it must reward them both with money and with professional honors.

Reading, With and Without a Purpose

The following addresses were given before the Children's Librarians section at the A. L. A. meeting in Toronto, June 21. They would be used, ordinarily, in the School Library department but they are placed here for the following reasons.

These two papers express so much that ought to be lodged firmly in the minds of those who essay to direct the reading of both young and old; there are so many thots in each paper that are common to both, that they are presented here under one caption in the hope that they will be read in connection with the single thot of READING.—Editor of LIBRARIES.

Reading with a Purpose

Louise P. Latimer, director, Work with children, Public library, Washington, D. C.

The two persons assigned this topic, "Reading for girls and boys," have been associated more years than the associate speaker will allow me to tell. Tho working in the same office and under considerable pressure during much of that indeterminate time, they had no serious disagreement until this assignment was undertaken.

In all good faith, and with a proper sense of responsibility to this audience, one set out to discuss reading with a purpose and the other set out to discuss reading without a purpose. Do what they would they found, upon compar-

ing notes, that they were coming out at the same place. This led to heated discussion and further thot. Finally these two associates asked each other (with some recrimination be it said!) whether after all reading with a purpose and reading without a purpose are necessarily very different. Which reminded one of them of a man in Trenton. This man went out one night and after drinking rather too much happened into a railway station. Going up to the ticket-seller he inquired, "How far is it from Trenton to Elizabeth?"

The ticket seller replied, "Forty miles."

The man who had been drinking rather too much sat down on a bench

and went to sleep. After a time he got up, walked up to the office and asked the ticket-seller, "How far is it from Trenton to Elizabeth?"

And the ticket-seller replied, "Forty miles."

The man who had been drinking rather too much again sought a bench and went to sleep. After a while he woke, went over to the office window and said to the ticket-seller, "How far is it from Elizabeth to Trenton?"

The ticket-seller said, "I've told you twice it was forty miles from Trenton to Elizabeth. Now if it's 40 miles from Trenton to Elizabeth ain't it bound to be 40 miles from Elizabeth to Trenton?" The man who had been drinking rather too much drew himself up with dignity and reported, "Not nec' sarily, not nec'sarily; it's a week from Christmas to New Year but it's a heluva time from New Year to Christmas."

Now these two library seekers after truth concluded that whether one set out to talk about reading with a purpose or reading without a purpose, if the basic thing is present, the distance in each case is about 40 miles. This basic thing they found to be deep interest. In other words if there is a common denominator of deep interest the results are bound to be similar.

Many writers in journals and magazines deplore the fact that education in America frequently does not educate. (Let me interrupt myself to say that in this talk in speaking of America I mean to include the United States as well as Canada). Is not the fact that so often a college education is sought for the sake of a degree or the associations the heart of the difficulty which these articles indicate? There is a tremendous distinction between those who want an education for education's name and those who want it for the sake of knowledge. One wants the label, the other the content.

We are familiar with a situation like this. Two boys set out for college from the same small town; as far as one can see they come from similar

home conditions after attending the same schools. At college they elect the same courses, sit under the same professors, use the same textbooks, possibly get the same ratings and finally the same degree. But, curiously, one is educated and one is not. What has happened?

Our two lads must have had some such experience as this, one had a latent interest (possibly from some far-off ancestor) or was aroused by an enthusiastic person while the other was not so fortunate. One had the experience of taking in what he read or studied by the marvellous process about which we know little. His reading became part of his mind and his character and of his actions. The other, setting out to get an education because "it is done" or to utilize it as a business asset, came out of college with a degree but with his education for the most part outside himself or unassimilated. One had learned to seek knowledge for its own sake, the other sought knowledge for prestige or for its material uses. Life abundant lies between these points of view.

We know that people may live and die without this flash of light. We know that one person can light the flame in another. We know that such aroused interest may be the greatest event of a life time.

Such a starved bank of moss
Till that May-morn,
Blue ran the flash across;
Violets were born!

No one can continue to give out unless something is taken in. Enthusiasm is not transmitted unless it is genuinely felt. Those working with young people should be financially care-free, with a safe margin above fatigue and a margin above that where abide enthusiasm and the power to inspire. Be the library or school building ever so beautiful the inspiration for the child must come mainly from the librarian or the teacher and only from the enthusiastic one at that. As an aside I wonder when our communities will realize that this awakening which librarians and teachers have an unique

chance to give to young people must come out of buoyance and enthusiasm. If we could measure in children the effect of tired teachers and children's librarians I think our communities tomorrow would start sabbatical years to occur, contrary to the dictionary definition, every five years. Since we already are spending a considerable amount on our libraries and schools why not the little more ("and how much it is!") to realize in this way more richly on our investment.

Now I take it that the marvellous opportunity of one who works with children is that she may some day, almost surely without being aware, set this interest going. I say without being aware. I do not believe one can, by taking thot, influence another but I do believe that years of loving reading may make us ready for this great moment. As one

Whose powers shed round him in the common strife,

Or mild concerns of ordinary life,
A constant influence, a peculiar grace.

With what do librarians saturate themselves that they may have this "peculiar grace?" With books first, of course, and books all the time but also with much else that is worth while, the out of doors, travel, music, pictures, companionship. What sort of books? All sorts of books. "Education means leading forth and not stuffing in."

While aroused interest means a positive good we must not forget that it has negative value also in that the worth while thot may displace a not worth while or bad thot. Likewise it is well to remember a companion truth, that every good book read displaces a poor book that might be read. The mental energy of young people is tremendous and must have exercise. A children's librarian has it in her power to direct this force.

Tho all this be true we children's librarians must be mindful not to take ourselves too seriously. The only way, perhaps, is to love books and other fine things so much that they radiate from us. If we make of ourselves what we would like to make of the children we

shall not go far wrong in preparing for work with young people. While it is true that,

... such gardens are not made
By singing: "Oh, how beautiful!" and
sitting in the shade.

yet we should not always be studying or making effort; we will not hear if we do not listen, we will not see unless we pause to look. We gather no lovely, soft moss if we are perpetually rolling. Probably a large proportion of the charm left in this foolishly hastening world dwells in those who have, as Wordsworth terms it, "a wise passiveness."

We can keep before us, too, that a book or an experience even, which is one child's meat may be another child's poison. It is not so important (within certain boundaries) what book is read as what book is loved. Your book or your type of book may not be my book or type of book nor need it be.

All that I know
Of a certain star
Is, it can throw
(Like the angled spar)
Now a dart of red,
Now a dart of blue,
Till my friends have said

They would fain see, too,

My star that dartles the red and the blue!
Then it stops like a bird; like a flower,
hangs furled:

They must solace themselves with the
Saturn above it.

What matter to me if their star is a world?
Mine has opened its soul to me; therefore
I love it.

There are those who think that only fanciful, imaginative, or whimsical books make for culture. I want to plead for the dictionary which is one of the most fascinating books I know. Not fascinating to get words out of to use in conversation but fascinating as a mine of the beauties to be found in words.

Many years ago an old man of 70 years or so, still wearing the Confederate grey that he never laid off tho he lived 30 years after the Civil War ended, used to take a little girl by the hand and walk down the street talking about words. She can hear today the tapping of his cane on the great stone flags of that little village street

and she remembers oh so tenderly his saying, between taps, "Take the words benevolent and beneficent and see from their roots what they mean, *bene volo* and *bene facio*, wishing well and doing well. You see its just the shade." That to a little girl who has found hours of pleasure in the dictionary ever since. This love, please note, was kindled in the heart of this child.

Now if you were sent to the dictionary solely to learn how to spell words you have been deprived of the pure joys to be found in a dictionary. But if you sympathize with poor Sentimental Tommy, as he lost his opportunity to win the scholarship while he groped for the word which said just what he meant, you will share this enthusiasm.

We have referred to those who lean to purely imaginative books. There are those who prefer the utilitarian in literature; who want only facts for the child and usable information. Usable in an obvious way. They have not stopped to think that imagination is the father of invention and all creative work including even business. Sir Joshua Reynolds tells us, "The more extensive your acquaintance is with the works of those who have excelled, the more extensive will be your power of invention."

But enough of the effect of interest in reading for we are under some obligation to get back to that reading with a purpose. We must see where we are bound, for we hope we are not like the old darkies, "Gwine but we don't know where we's gwine."

There are many possible ways of reading with a purpose—thru a prescribed course of study, perhaps, or with a certain object. I am having my own definition and I should like my audience to come with me. The difference I wish to make is that reading with a purpose books may have, over and above pure enjoyment, certain by-products.

"Martin Pippin in the apple orchard" is a splendid example of a reading without a purpose book and John Muir's Story of my boyhood and youth

a fine reading with a purpose book. Both can set the imagination winging but the autobiography has also many by-products.

"Jock of the Bushveld." Where shall we place it? I should say among my books, my reading with a purpose books. It has by-products. A perfect picture of a country, its many strange animals, the curious fascinating color of the South African atmosphere, the sun in its intensity or the veld. A well high perfect dog story too.

I am inclined to believe that biography and history, properly read, rather excel in food for the imagination and I should call Gertrude Atherton's The conqueror a fine reading with a purpose book. I know one person it set on a trail of biography and history of the period that she has followed for 15 years. The interest is stronger now than in the beginning and has led her down many by-ways. It wasn't that the person liked Alexander Hamilton because she didn't but it was the aroused interest in this period that mattered.

There are by-products for the child if we will only see them in such absurd, tender, protecting nonsense as,

James James
Morrison Morrison
Weatherby George Dupree
Took great
Care of his mother,
Tho he was only three.

A nice maiden aunt with Rogers' Tree book may make a boy see the woods for the first time. Bark, bud, leaf, autumn color, seed. That's an interest for a boy for a life time. But we must hold fast to the thot that the aunt needed to love trees and know something about them before her enthusiasm could reach the boy. Alas many people go thru the woods without really seeing!

Two friends sat at the foot of a tree reading. Presently they looked up and saw the tree for the first time. One said, "What is it?" The other replied, "I believe it is a chestnut tree, the leaf looks like a chestnut." "No," said the first, "I think it is an oak, it grows like

it." After much discussion each took home a leaf and hunted up their copies of Keeler's *Our native trees*. To their amusement they found that the tree was a chestnut oak. But the incident had given an added zest for the out of doors and strengthened congeniality. A little thing you say! But little things make life. As Beau Brummell was wont to say, "A glance of the eye, Reginald, a glance of the eye."

"First steps in the enjoyment of pictures." One could see in it a simple description of composition, of drawing, of color, of perspective but see where reading the book might carry a child led to it by an understanding and appreciative adult. Think of it! Such books may set up in a boy or girl a constructive enthusiasm that might lead to a vocation or better to an avocation, that stand by often for life.

A troubled father came into a children's room and asked for help. He said, "My boy has been reading nothing but series and I don't like the effect they are having on him. What can you give me to take him?" The children's librarian, almost prayerfully, brought books to show the father who went off with several. He came again and again, each time taking better books until finally the two picked certain biographies. After this had been going on for a year or so the father came in and said to the children's librarian who had worked hard to understand the problem, "I think I ought to tell you that I hardly know that boy, the stories of those men have him so interested and so impressed that he's like a different person about the house."

My associate would never let me but I would put picture books with my reading with a purpose books. Pleasurable, yes, but with by-products. See the education in the line and color of Walter Crane and Randolph Caldecott, Leslie Brooke, Howard Pyle and many another. If only our children could live with the available picture books and never see the comic strips and newspaper features for young people! The greatest compliment I have heard

for women in many years was paid unwittingly by a man who places some of these atrocities in papers. He said, "You know no woman has ever made a successful comic strip."

After all why should we care so much to protect children from the cheap and to enthuse them? Do we need thinkers and leaders? Will we have leaders if girls and boys have interests no higher than many now crowding them? We can't quite see Washington or Wellington, Lee or Lord Roberts, Woodrow Wilson or Lord Grey brought up on much that we are giving—or allowing to be given—our children today. "As a man (or child) thinketh in his heart, so is he." Entertained by cheap things, reading cheap things, our boys and girls will not as men and women be thinking thru the problems that so sorely need thinking thru. Cheapness makes the line of least resistance so easy, so almost logical. Cheapness makes followers of many that should be leaders.

Give a boy Williams' *Thinking it out*. Let him see for himself the reasons underlying wonderful scientific facts. If some boy will learn to think some one thing really out for himself, we might have a man added to those who will not be swept away by majority opinion. An enlightened public opinion, how often we hear that phrase! But we will have no really enlightened public opinion until we train our boys and girls to think for themselves and not take it as so because someone says so or they see it in print. Learning to think things thru may keep them from being stampeded by sob stories and the novelty chasing which so diverts purpose and fritters energy.

Slosson's *Creative chemistry* given to the right boy might result in a discovery that would revolutionize medical knowledge on some subject for it could set his feet in the path of chemical investigation. He might find a cure for one of the present greatest physical curses of man, colds and grip and pneumonia, which so far seem to baffle our physicians as completely as in the days of Hippocrates.

For the most part we have been considering books that are clearly purpose books, books with obvious by-products, but let young people feel the jungle with Kari, stalk the virgin forests with Leatherstocking, walk the hot, white roads of India with Kim, cross the fields of Warwickshire with Judith Shakespeare, travel up to London Town with Master Skylark, and they will, whether you call it so or not, have read with a purpose.

You will be saying, "We have listened to a number of words. After all what do they amount to?" They amount to three thots which I should like to leave with you; thots you have had as often as I but which we may

well reaffirm. They are, first, that a deep interest is necessary to effectual reading, second, that such interest can be aroused and third that the librarian in order to have the high privilege of arousing such interest must have an *informed* enthusiasm.

Finally those of us who work with young people might well say in the words of Socrates praying: "Beloved Pan, and all ye other gods who haunt this place, grant me beauty in the inward soul, and that the outward and inward may be as one; may I esteem the wise to be the rich . . ." Anything more? That prayer, I think, is enough for me.

* * *

Reading without a Purpose

M. Ethel Bubb, assistant-director, Work with children, Public library, Washington, D. C.

One day at luncheon, when possible section programs were being discussed, the suggestion was light-heartedly made that reading without a purpose—reading just for fun—would be a good topic. I had then a vision of someone, certainly not myself, standing before you today reading from various boys' and girls' books, pages so convincing that there could be no room for doubt that reading, whether one would or no, was fun. Somewhat later, surprised to find the suggestion adopted and myself one of the unwilling victims, I turned and twisted the matter about finally confiding to our Section chairman that perhaps—it would be hard, but perhaps—I could work something down to three quarters of an hour. The expression on that chairman's face was one of mixed amazement and horror. "Three quarters of an hour! Fifteen minutes is the very limit of time you may have!" With that ultimatum fled my every idea on the subject so there is little danger that the chair will need to call time.

An interesting looking midde-aged man stood reading in a Washington bus. Incidentally he was blocking the aisle. People pressed past him, brushed shoulders with him; he neither looked up nor moved. They jolted his arm, cast scathing looks upon him but to no effect. They were an exasperated group, that crowd of fellow passengers. Finally, pricked by the man's absorption and by the unselfconscious grin upon his face, exasperation shifted to curiosity. Necks were craned from the seats beside him, heads stretched over his shoulder, the bus swayed and jerked. Still the man was oblivious to the world. Curiosity became almost tangible, the whole bus animated with one desire, to know what the man was reading. It was Masfield's *Sard Harker*.

Such happy abandon to the printed page, it is generally conceded, is possible only to childhood and to culture. And is it not our feeling for the magic of such abandon, our belief in a spell so real that we cannot bear that any child should miss the enchantment, which makes us as librarians choose to work among boys and girls? And is not the fostering of this capacity, the awakening of it, if latent, the drawing out and developing of it, at the very heart of children's work?

"Books will not yield to us so richly when we are older." Such could well be our motto and our article of faith. To arouse, to pique curiosity until print seems magic and the cover of every book to hide away some possible adventure, some experience, to help the child to discover the fun of real books, this is our vocation and our pleasure. The faith, that "What we acquire and learn to love when we are young stands by us thru life," is our spur.

Reading for pleasure only! Over what exciting trails will reading just for pleasure take us! Over trails upon trails interlacing and scattering into the jungles of South America, the bushveld of Africa, into the ice-bound Northlands, into the Sudan country to cross trails with Gordon, to the Spanish main, to the plains with the Indians perhaps to meet Raphael Pumpelly at the Santa Rita mines, to the land of "Toro of the little people," to adventurings upon far seas, to gentlemen of the road, smugglers, captives and royal children. They lead outward to the world of faerie, of the Gods, of Thor and Sigurd, of Balder the beautiful, of Cuchulain the fleet, of Prometheus the fire-bringer, of Heracles and of Mother Demeter. They circle round to Flodden Field, to the Plains of Abraham, to Belleau Wood. Nor will the trails untangle from animal life, from the little woods creatures nor from the world of the imagination. ("A quick ear for silver bells"! How many children hear and follow after them!) Trails lead into paths of the singing words of poems, into the wide quiet of the starry heavens, into realms of history, or science and of art.

"Reading without a purpose." Are you troubled that the books themselves may not suggest these many trails? Well, there are in addition the child's boy and girl companions and the adults with whom he comes into contact, the father, the mother, the teacher, the friend and particularly the librarian.

It would be my definition of a children's librarian that she is, or should be, a person peculiarly sensitive to the

pleasures of books who has in addition a capacity for making her own enthusiasms contagious. It seems to be a law of the spiritual world that we can only give that which we ourselves possess, that we may not open gates into gardens not our own. But the compensation is that enthusiasms, if deep, get shared widely and quite unconsciously.

The child whose father sings her to sleep with the Gilbert and Sullivan operas will probably grow up with a little twist at the corner of her mouth and most probably a delight in Lear's nonsense, Belloc's good and bad beasts, in Johnny Crow's garden, in Christopher Robin's companions, in "Alice", and in "Bosephus and the fiddle and the old black bear." It was the enthusiasm of a chance lecturer at school which, luckily for us, so caught Mrs Caroline Snedeker that she could never break away from the spell of Greece and so finally gave to us, children and grown-ups, the "Spartan." I knew a boy who, chancing upon a life of Michael Angelo—it was the little one by Keyser—became so enamoured of his hero that for years, even after he was a grown man, he grudged Rembrandt a place among the greatest for fear of detracting from his idol. A mother comes to one of our children's rooms month after month for occupation books. Her own father, she says, used to encourage her to build things. She loves to use her hands, listening best to reading when thus occupied. Her children in their turn each have hammers and saws and nails and read with absorption books on toy making, furniture making and boat building.

Do you enjoy the imaginative fancy of "Billy Barnicoat," of "Little boy lost," of "Wind in the willows" and of "Martin Pippin?" Mr Greville Macdonald writes "I cannot but believe in the imaginative education of the child being during the earlier years of life, quite overwhelming in its importance, if we would keep burning the light which alone can serve in the dark contest to come. If the fairy tale be forsaken the oil will be far to seek." And again, "The fairy tale is a wild flower.

It is native to that pasture of aboriginal uncultivated innocence wherein, among the roots of grass and flowers, the elemental passions dwell."

Lord Grey of Falldon writing of poetry as a recreation speaks of it as one of the greatest of literary pleasures, and also, as one of the least easy to attain. "The habit of reading poetry should be acquired when people are young." "Poetry," he continues, "does not become intimate to us thru the intellect alone; it comes to us thru temperament, one might almost say enters us thru the pores of the skin, and it is as if when we get older our skin becomes dry and our temperament hard and we can read only with the head." You remember that Charles Darwin in his later years lamenting his limitations said that if he had his life to live over he "would make it a rule to read some poetry and listen to some music at least once every week; for perhaps the parts of my brain now atrophied would thus have been kept active thru life."

Next to poetry as a recreation Lord Grey places novels; the great novels of character first, (they must be long ones to be great he feels) but also novels of adventure "of the Homeric kind" such as *Monte Cristo*, and novels of humor such as *Pickwick*. The two questions to ask of a piece of fiction, one of our recent critics asserts, are: "Does it create the illusion that enables us to escape? and does it intensify our capacity for more sensitive experience?" Clive Bell avers that "men and women who have been thrilled by the pure esthetic significance of a work of art go away into the outer world in a state of excitement and exaltation which makes them more sensitive to all that is going forward about them. They realize with a heightened intensity the significance and possibility of life." And this "increased capacity for experience," this sensing of a world of "wider and richer, more vivid and fruitful experience—," the "eager desire that our stunted sensibilities should put forth fresh roots into the life that surrounds us," are these not

the characteristics we hope may be developed as the boy and girl grow to manhood and womanhood? Galsworthy maintains "A genuine sensation is worth all the uplift in the world." "All great literature," Quiller-Couch observes, "is gentle toward that spirit which learns of it. It teaches by apprehension, not by comprehension."

"Reading without a purpose." Are we afraid that in reading without a purpose, for all the richness gained, books which should be read will be missed? I sympathize with Disraeli commenting that "he who did not make himself acquainted with the best thots of the greatest writers would one day be mortified to observe that his own best thots are their indifferent ones." Hugh Walpole suggests one solution in affirming that everyone who truly loves books at some time in his life has been guilty of that "least harmful of all the snobberies common to man, the literary variation," and has read just to be educated.

The final stage in reading, Mr Walpole denominates as reading for love, for oneself alone, the books that in some mysterious fashion seem especially intended for you. But reading for love in this sense must be for the years of experience after wide-spread trails have been explored. In the meantime for the boys and girls it is,

How shall I know, unless I go
To Cairo and Cathay,
Whether or not this blessed spot
Is blest in every way?

Books as tools, books for information, books read for a purpose, is there really any danger that a boy or girl could fail to meet them under this guise in the years of formal schooling? And is this the way of knowledge in the truest sense? James Stephens holds that "We assimilate knowledge less thru our intellects than our temperaments." Conrad undoubtedly speaks thru Marlow's lips when that philosopher asserts in "Chance," "We are the creatures of our light literature much more than is generally suspected in a world which prides itself on being scientific and practical—"

Our well-loved Woodrow Wilson wrote "We read if we have the true reader's zest and palate, not to grow more knowing, but to be less pent up and bound within a little circle—as those who take their pleasure, and not as those who laboriously seek instruction—as a means of seeing and enjoying the world of men and affairs. We wish companionship and renewal of

spirit, enrichment of that and the full adventure of the mind; and we desire fair company, and a large world in which to find them."

After all is it not, perhaps, the most that those of one generation may do for another to give into their hands "the end of a golden string?"

And blest is he, who follows free
The road to anywhere.

Letters—Information and Discussion

Free Distribution

There has been turned over to the New York public library from the estate of the late Job E. Hedges, several copies of his book, *Common sense in politics*, 8vo., 253 p., 1919.

Mr Hedges was well-known in New York as a first-class lawyer and a popular after-dinner speaker. A copy of the book will be sent prepaid to any public library requesting it. Communications should be addressed to the Acquisition division.

New "A. L. A. Catalog" for Norway

No library which has a strong Scandinavian constituency can well afford to be without the new catalog issued by the Library office of the Department of Church Affairs of Norway, (*Kirkedepartementet*). The title is, *Katalog over böcker skicket for folkeboksamlinger* (Catalog of books suitable for public libraries) Oslo, 1926. Price 4 kr., about \$1.

The catalog is issued as a large quarto printed in double columns on 217 pages. Titles are arranged according to the Decimal Classification, the Norwegian edition. *Belles lettres* (*Skjønnlitteratur*) follows the 900's, with author and subject index at end of volume.

Copies can be obtained by addressing *Folkeboksamlingenes ekspedisjon*, Oslo, Norway.

J. C. M. H.

Photostat—At Your Service

To the Editor, LIBRARIES:

Librarians and others may be interested to know that a photostat has been installed in the Birmingham Reference library for the rapid production of facsimiles of documents, prints, maps, drawings, tables, printed matter, etc., in the library.

I hope that librarians will bear this in mind and that the apparatus will be of service in providing them with copies of documents, leaves of rare books, etc., that they may require from time to time.

WALTER POWELL,
Chief librarian.

Birmingham public libraries,
Ratcliff Place,
Birmingham, England.

When Is an Order an Order?

Editor, LIBRARIES:

Can you tell me what constitutes a bona fide, book order? I am having an argument with a publishing house (——) or rather with a member of the staff.

Their representative had on display in a local hotel their many and excellent publications. Of course he recommended them all and considered them all good library items.

A library which ranks second from the bottom in the class in which it belongs is limited in its purchases. When buying from the representatives

of publishing houses, I usually check the recent lists and the representative does the same. In this case, I merely expressed my preference from the books on display.

The bill for this order, when it finally arrived, was \$121. From this order, I returned books to the value of \$23. These were books which I had not ordered. In fact there were more than this number, but upon examination, I considered the others good library values. We are having a difference of opinion over this \$23. The publishing house maintains that it is a bona fide order and as such cannot be returned. Can you give me any further information as to what constitutes a bona fide order?

LIBRARIAN

If the order was in writing by the librarian or if it was a printed order signed by the librarian, then the library is liable for payment of the bill. If it was merely a verbal transaction thru-out, then it is the agent's word against the librarian's and is worth no more than that.

—Editor

Another Fake Librarian

A letter from Evelyn H. Yeaton, librarian of the Public library of Lorain, Ohio, tells of a "visiting librarian" who uses well the library "patter" as she visited. Presently she discovered she had lost her purse, railroad ticket and her cardcase. She gave a fictitious name and address, as she borrowed from the sympathetic librarian, thereby making good her passage money from place to place. Librarians are warned to be on their guard against "visiting librarians" of this type.

Retirement of Mr Bliss

Mr Robert P. Bliss resigned on June 1, after 21 years as head of the library extension work of the Pennsylvania state library. So great was his interest in the libraries of the state, so genuine, that in 1905 he used his vacation period and at his own expense made a preliminary survey of these libraries

for the Pennsylvania library association.

All that Pennsylvania has accomplished in library extension has either been directly due to his efforts or was given his hearty interest and support. He stood unflinchingly for a high standard of service and gave it to the extent of his resources. His resignation will be sincerely regretted by all of those who have worked with him and understood his worth and fine library ideals.

PENNSYLVANIAN

So You Are Going to Edinburgh!

Dear LIBRARIAN:

We are delighted that you are coming to the Library conference at Edinburgh, but I am sadly puzzled how to answer your question "What should I see while in Edinburgh?" as the list of places one might visit with pleasure and profit is long. However, I venture on a few suggestions, in the hope that they may prove useful.

Perhaps Edinburgh's chief attraction is its strong historic interest. We can hardly walk from one street to another, without evoking echoes of the past. The Castle, with the little old chapel of sainted Queen Margaret Holyrood palace, and St. Giles' cathedral you will, of course, visit; but fewer find their way to the old-world of Lady Stair's close, or to the reputed dwelling of the great Knox.

Passing round St. Giles' to Parliament Square, you will find yourself transported several centuries back. You will, no doubt, go to the Advocates' (now the National) library. When you are received in the Hall leading to the library on the Wednesday evening, note it well, for it is the old Parliament house of Scotland—now, while the Courts are in session, the place where waiting advocates "sweep the floor" even as in Scott's time. Here the Marquis of Montrose received sentence of death. Another hall is supposed to have known many a tragic scene when the Covenanters were brought for trial before the

Privy Council—quiet and peaceful enough now it is, with barred windows looking out on a grassy court.

When you stand in the severely beautiful Old Quadrangle of the University, remember this is the spot anciently known as 'Kirk o' Field,' so closely associated with the names of Mary, Queen of Scots, and Darnley. Here the Speculative society (of which Scott was for a time librarian, then secretary, and treasurer) has its abode; in this room Stevenson read his early essays.

Princes Street, now the resort of fashion, was once the "Lang Dykes" along which "Bonnie Dundee" (Claverhouse) rode on the journey that was to end on the fatal field of Killiecrankie. This street, too, was once strewn with strange pebbles, in the form of swords, pistols and carbines, when Gardiner's dragoons fled in wild panic in 1745. For light relief (as Scotland's story is but sombre) one might glance, in passing, at 25 George Square, where Scott's father resided, and whence Murray of Broughton once issued, swiftly followed by an indignant tea-cup, as Mr Scott vowed "Neither lip of me nor of mine comes after Mr Murray of Broughton's." Another George Square recollection is the courtship of Jane Welsh by Thomas Carlyle, which had its setting in No. 22.

But there are so many literary associations! From the Scott monument it is not far to 39 North Castle Street, where he lived for many years. In Greyfriars churchyard, he met his first love. Behind the Register House is 30 St. James' Square, where Burns lodged at the time of his correspondence with "Clarinda." Stevenson's early years were spent at 17 Heriot Row. Blackwood's "saloon," so renowned in Edinburgh's literary history, was at 45, George Street—still the Blackwood publishing house. Faithful Boswell stayed (and Dr Johnson visited him) in James's close, but the actual house has been burnt down. In Canongate churchyard, Robert Fergusson was buried. De Quincey's remains lie in

St. Cuthbert's churchyard. The small burial-ground of the Calton contains all that was mortal of Scotland's famous philosopher David Hume.

If you are a lover of animals, you will not fail, when visiting Greyfriars, to pay tribute to the memory of little "Greyfriars Bobby;" and when at the Castle, ask to be shown the "Dog's Cemetery." "Rab and his friends" was written at 23, Rutland Street.

You are interested in art? Then you will turn at the foot of the Mound to the delights afforded by the National gallery of Scotland where are gathered many treasurers, old and new. Three fine Raeburns, hidden away in the "inner sanctuaries" of the University, are little known, but are particularly well-worth seeing.

Niddry Street contains St. Cecilia's Hall, once the centre of the musical life of Edinburgh. In September, the month of the conference, the numerous musical treats in which Edinburgh revels throughout the winter, are hardly beginning; but even thus early in the season, the Usher hall (where the delegates will be received by the Lord Provost) can generally offer something above the average.

Trusting that your visit to Edinburgh may long be a very happy memory,

JEAN M. ALLAN

Central public library
Edinburgh, Scotland

A County Library in Iowa

By contracts between the board of supervisors of Hardin County and the boards of library trustees of the three libraries located in that county at Iowa Falls, Eldora and Alden, Hardin County becomes the first county in Iowa with library service.

This is a matter of great rejoicing to the Iowa librarians as what has been done in this county can be done in other counties. Much credit is due to the librarian of Iowa Falls for her efforts in this direction and to the board of library trustees of that library for their vision in the project.

J. A. R.

Monthly—Except August
and September

Libraries

216 W. Monroe Street
Chicago, Illinois

Mary Eileen Ahern, Editor

Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Five copies to one library - - -	\$12 a year
Current single number - - - -	35 cents	Foreign subscriptions - - -	\$3.50 a year

By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money-orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at market prices.

Contributions for current numbers of **LIBRARIES** should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

*Now like a pageant of the Golden Year
In rich memorial pomp the hours go by,
With rose-embroidered flags unfurled
And tasselled bugles calling through the world
Wake, for your hope draws near!*

*Wake, for in each soft porch of azure sky,
Seen through each arch of pale green leaves,
The Gate
Of Eden swings apart for Summer's royal
State.*
—Alfred Noyes.

The Toronto Meeting

IT WAS a red letter conference. The natural fears that the library group in Toronto would be overwhelmed with the burden of the presidency and weight of the convention were entirely erased, and only in the splendid results was there any evidence of the careful and great labor which necessarily must have been spent on the local affairs to make them so indisputably highly satisfactory.

The distaste of the A. L. A. for a city meeting had no place at the Toronto conference. The wonderful arrangements for housing the visitors in the beautiful college residences and the common meeting place at Hart House gave ample opportunity for personal contact, and the immediate surroundings shut out every hint of city distractions—trees, trees everywhere, green grass and gardens of beautiful plants and flowers gave one the restful feeling of nature's touch on every side. Only those who chose to do so, felt the city's touch.

Hospitality reigned supreme. The story of it is too long to record here, suffice it to say that from the highest to the lowliest of Toronto's citizens there were courtesy, helpfulness and good cheer. Private quarters had open doors and gracious hospitality, clubs and semi-private organizations made every effort to share their comforts with the visitors and one would be a cynic, indeed, who did not sense the friendliness that seemed to prevail everywhere.

The general programs were of a very high order and here is where the talent and judgment of President Locke shone forth most effectively. There was inspiration in every one of them and helpfulness, and from each one was derived a pleasure that will be a lasting benefit. The plan of curtailing the length of the sessions was most satisfactory. One could enjoy the meetings to the end without that feeling of surfeit that often occurs in library meetings. The section meetings and

the round-tables, too, for the most part carried out the plan of short sessions losing nothing thereby in interest or effectiveness and giving much pleasure. A wish for the continuance of the plan was often heard.

A larger number of actual library workers was present than is usually the case, many more than ever before

from Canada. A noticeable feature was the youth of the gathering or so it seemed, tho the mode of dress of the ladies might have been deceiving. This, too, was a pleasure. Taken all in all, the Toronto meeting ranks high in library effectiveness, pleasure and importance among the many fine meetings of the A. L. A.

Fifty Years of Honorable Service

ON JUNE 1, Mr William Eaton Foster finished 50 years as librarian of the Public library of Providence, R. I. His fellow citizens speak of his work as "the task of transforming a noble civic purpose into an accomplished fact." Except for a short period as librarian in Hyde Park, Mass., and as cataloger in the Turner free library, Randolph, Mass., Mr Foster has devoted his whole library life to the service in Providence. And right well it has counted!

Many librarians in the years from 1889 thru the first decade of the twentieth century looked to the work of the Providence public library for enlightenment, encouragement and satisfaction in what they were doing. No number of *The Bulletin*, long issued by that library, but brought much help of many kinds, and always the personal help of Mr Foster was to be had for the mere mention of perplexity. This is not to say that the helpful spirit has lost any of its readiness but the growing multiplicity and extension of sources of information, very properly relieved in a measure, no doubt, the constant appeal to Mr Foster. Librarians of 25 years ago fell in very readily with the advice, perhaps they originated it, "ask Mr Foster."

Fifty full years Mr Foster has given his institution, widening its service to the community as means and progress allowed. And as with most good libraries, Providence public library has always kept ahead, in its service, of the readiness of the municipal authorities to provide for its activities. Friends have not been slow to express their appreciation, in bequests, donations and personal service, of the great work the library has done and thereby they have made possible many of Mr Foster's aspirations for larger opportunities for public library service for Providence.

Mr Foster has not been seen for a good many years in large library gatherings but he has kept in touch with the trend of affairs. He made one of the most valuable contributions to the discussions of last year in his wonderfully fair and complete paper "Five men of '76." It was printed in the *Bulletin* of the A. L. A. in October, and a few reprints were made by request. It is a historic document of value and written by one who "was there all the while" and full worthy of being named in the group himself.

Fifty years of continuous good service is something of which anyone may be proud. The press of Providence

speaks in glowing terms of Mr Foster and his work. LIBRARIES echoes the words of *The Providence Journal*:

"The conspicuous deserving and the ever-growing needs are in large measure chargeable to the librarian."

A Plea for Rag Paper Editions

THE tremendous increase in the use of print paper since the Civil war has made it necessary to utilize every possible material to obtain paper in sufficient quantities to supply the demand. The increased cost of production has forced publishers to use the cheaper paper as far as consistent with the purpose for which it is to be used. The result of all this is that most newspapers of the past 50 years are vanishing and in another 50 years will be gone. Most books of real historical and literary value, as well as records in science and art, will have disappeared also.

The exception to this wholesale loss of records of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries will be found only in such newspapers and books as were printed on rag paper. While wood pulp paper is entirely suitable for the newspapers that are discarded as soon as read, it is practically worthless where permanence is required. Some grades are good for a limited period, but 100 per cent rag paper is the only paper known that stands the test of time.

There is an obligation resting on the present generation of book handlers to prevent ultimate destruction so far as lies in their power. The *New York Times* has been experimenting for several years with a view to finding paper that will unquestionably endure, as is amply illustrated by rare old books

printed several hundred years ago on hand-made paper of all-rag content. The success that has attended the experiments has resulted in the production of a news paper for recording events of the present day—and many of them are worth preserving—that will be readable in 2027 and for much longer. The *United States Daily* of Washington has also begun to issue a special edition printed on all-rag paper, and other prominent newspapers are planning to publish special all-rag editions, or have the matter under advice.

The obligation of librarians enters at this point. Only about 50 librarians so far have given support to the idea by subscribing for the special rag edition of the *New York Times*. The support given the *United States Daily* by librarians is not known but it is probable that the percentage is no greater. This undertaking of these papers is an event of great importance and as such deserves the substantial support of the many libraries which do preserve newspapers. There is no legitimate excuse why the great libraries, particularly, should not give not only approval but substantial support to the newspapers that are willing to make the effort to preserve the records of the present for the benefit of the future. It is not a question of generosity. It is a question of absolute duty. Because a necessary library item is expensive is not always a legitimate reason for not buying it. The large public libraries, college and

university libraries, and special libraries should come promptly to the aid of this movement, not only for its support but because these special all-rag editions are limited and too long delayed decision will result in failure to secure the back numbers. Some publishers are moving toward the plan of

issuing all-rag editions of important books. Carl Sandburg's Abraham Lincoln has been issued in a limited edition in which rag paper was used. This is not a question of choice with the library which makes a practice of preserving records but a matter of duty and prime necessity.

The Ohio Situation

AT THIS time of writing, the chaos in the Ohio state library remains unchanged to the deep regret and chagrin not only of librarians in Ohio but of librarians thruout the country. The Ohio state library was such a fine example of what such an institution could do, when administered as an educational activity, that it has been regarded very highly by many other libraries as a leader in their effort to make their own state libraries something more than political pawns. Therefore the present situation in Ohio is the concern of the craft generally and is most deplorable from every standpoint.

It is said that the present situation is definitely the result of political machinations on the part of those who desired to check the Governor in his successful career as chief executive by allowing him to make the blunder of disintegrating a popular educational movement. It is also rumored that personal ambition on the part of those who have profited in days gone by in the use of the Ohio state library is largely to blame for fanning the fires of misguided zeal. Personal animosity,

also, seems not to be lacking on the part of some who professionally ought not to be so moved.

It is all embarrassing to everybody, but the idea of distributing the work and material among other institutions is so destructive, so tragic, that anyone who senses what it means can not help protesting.

The work of the state library can not be carried on successfully except by trained experts, familiar with conditions and the resources of the collection. Librarians of other institutions could not possibly take over the responsibilities of the proposed additions to their work, and an effort to do so would unquestionably entail loss, not only in the state library service but in the service of their own institutions. If they are prepared to do this additional work without additional money and workers, it would seem that they had been over supplied with both before—an unthinkable proposition. If the appropriation can be made for the work in a new place, why not where it is already established? Any attempt to do otherwise means loss of service, of time and of money. It is all inexcusable, unjustifiable and extremely regrettable.

Death's Toll

The many friends of Miss Virginia Tutt, librarian, Public library, South Bend, Indiana, were shocked to hear of her sudden death, May 30, in that city. Miss Tutt embodied most of the requisites that make an ideal librarian, tact, patience, public spirit and a far-sighted professional enthusiasm. Serving, as she did, a manufacturing city she developed the technical side of the city library to answer demands of chemists, engineers and scientists interested in its industries. She cherished a dream of a great central library with special departments and able assistants for each class of patrons.

Personally despising sham of any sort, she was a woman of true culture, affable, efficient, self poised, always displaying that common sense which is so uncommon, and able to eliminate personal considerations in judging questions of policy.

Miss Tutt leaves a vacancy in her city and state, and in library circles that will be difficult to fill. No religious or political bias influenced her service, as is evidenced by the following tribute of Rev John W. Cavanaugh, professor of English, University of Notre Dame.

The death of Miss Virginia M. Tutt is a personal bereavement for all of us who used the Public library. Her gifts of mind, heart, character and personality were such that I fear it is too much to expect that her place will ever be completely filled.

On my own behalf, and on behalf of other Notre Dame men to whom she was supremely kind and helpful, I lay on her grave a wreath of remembrance and gratitude. God rest her soul!

Miss Edna L. Allyn, for many years librarian of the Library of Hawaii, died in Honolulu, June 7.

Miss Tyler of Western Reserve library school writes:

We are proud to claim Miss Edna I. Allyn and have received the news of her death with great sorrow. Miss Allyn graduated in the first class of this school, 1905, and was in the Cleveland library system as branch librarian a few years before going to Honolulu, where she has made a notable contribution in the development of the Library of Hawaii. Modest and unassuming, with high ideals and great courage, Miss Allyn has rendered signal service to

her profession while laboring under the handicap of frail health.

Away off in Hawaii but under her own flag, Edna I. Allyn for many years upheld the standards of the American library service in that region, making a place of light and inspiration for those who were interested in books and endearing herself not only to her staff but to every one who came in contact with her. Death ended her work on June 7, beloved by all who knew her.

The sudden death at Bailey Island, Maine, of Clara Louise Burnham takes from America one of its most popular and prolific authors. Mrs Burnham wrote steadily after the publication of her first novel in 1881 till her death last month.

Mrs Burnham lived most of her life in Chicago where she had a permanent hold on the affections of many friends in literary, social and club circles.

Boston has recently been shocked by the sudden death of Mrs Thomas Bailey Aldrich, widow of the celebrated poet, essayist and story-teller. Mrs Aldrich, herself, held an honored place in the intellectual life of New England.

The Oberly Memorial Prize for 1927

The second biennial Eunice Rockwood Oberly Memorial prize for the best bibliography in the field of agriculture or related sciences was awarded by the A. L. A. to Mary G. Lacy, Mrs Annie M. Hannay and Emily L. Day, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics library.

The prize-winning bibliography is entitled Price Fixing by Government, 421 B. C.-1926 A. D., honorable mention being given to a bibliography on Coöperation in agriculture by Chastina Gardner of the recently created division of coöperative marketing in the department of agriculture, a bibliography on World food supply by Margaret T. Olcott of the Economics library, and to a bibliography on Government control of export and import in foreign countries, presented by Mrs Annie M. Hannay, also of the Economics library.

Readers' Guide Prize Contest

The judges who read and appraised the essays sent in for the Readers' Guide contest which closed on April 1, were Miss Carolyn F. Ulrich of the Periodical division of the New York public library, Miss Agnes Cowing, librarian of James Monroe high school, New York City, and Miss Alice Dougan, editor of the *Reader's Guide*.

First prize, \$100. Miss Margery Quigley, Mt. Pleasant branch, Public library, Washington, D. C. "No More Tomorrows."

Second prize, \$50. Miss Grace Owen, 1314 Futerbaugh Ave., San Diego, Calif. "Using the *Reader's Guide*."

Third prize, \$25. Miss Mary E. Donaldson, Memorial library, Port Arthur, Texas. "How Memorial Library Uses the *Reader's Guide*."

Fourth prize, \$15. Miss Jessie F. Brainerd, Horace Mann School for Boys, New York City. "The Indispensable *Reader's Guide*."

Fifth prize, \$10. Miss Iva Walker, Senior High-School library, Omaha, Nebr.

Some of the 69 essays in full and selections from others will be printed in a special 32 page pamphlet which will be sent to all subscribers of the *Reader's Guide* and to prospective subscribers with the hope that it may serve a useful purpose in stimulating its use, suggesting ways to promote its use, as well as plans to be used in securing donations of periodicals and cooperation generally.

THE H. W. WILSON COMPANY

Survey in Oakland, California

The special committee appointed by the Board of directors of the Public library of Oakland, California, has completed a survey of that library in regard to its resources, equipment, personnel and general program of the institution. The committee was made up of Dr Arthur E. Bostwick, chairman, Isabella Cooper, Barton W. Evermann and Fred Telford, each an expert in his particular field. The report will undoubtedly be full of valuable suggestions.

Dr Bostwick undertook the study of general administration and of mis-

cellaneous matters. Personnel and those matters having to do with civil service relations are treated by Mr Telford. All machinery, methods and work with the public were under the direction of Miss Cooper. Examination of institutions other than the library—museums and the art gallery, was in charge of Dr Evermann. Each made a separate report and the whole has been coordinated and assembled into a definite report which will be published in pamphlet form for the information of those interested.

Special mention is made of the faithful and efficient service of Charles S. Greene, for more than a quarter-century, the library executive officer.

Vacation Books¹

Vacation is here

And so are books

Come and get them

At the Public library

There is no charge, if you live in the city.

If you are going away—a six weeks privilege.

Only sign a card if you are not now a borrower;

Not an inch of red tape.

Before the week is over

Or you make your summer plans

Outline to the librarian what you like to read;

Keep a place in your bag for books—

See to it that you don't miss a good book when you want it!

Books for which there is a great demand cannot be included in the vacation privilege.

¹ From Public library, Albany, N. Y.

The American Library in Paris

10, rue de l'Elysée

Five more book publishers have been added, during the past month, to the list of 73 who are cooperating in the exhibition of current American books at the American Library in Paris. They are:

William Morrow & Co., New York
The Brick Row Book Shop, New York
The Press of the American Institute of Architects, New York
Scott, Foresman & Co., Chicago
Jordan Publishing Co., Chicago

The exhibition continues to grow steadily in interest and importance.

Philadelphia's New Library

"The latest in libraries." So the expert and the layman described the new Main building of the Free library of Philadelphia, the first monumental structure to be completed on Philadelphia's Parkway, extending from the City Hall to Fairmount Park. This Parkway, when completed, will be one of the great avenues of the world. At its head is the great Art museum, to cost upwards of \$15,000,000. It is nearing completion. Next to the library will be historic Franklin Institute and nearby the equally historic American Philosophical society, the Rodin Museum, the Board of Education building and sundry other official structures. Modeled on the great building of the Ministry of Marine at the Place de la Concorde, Paris, the library building has established a high standard which unquestionably will be maintained in the future. Facing Logan Circle, with its beautiful fountains, with the Roman Catholic cathedral in the near distance and the City Hall further back, the view from the roof-garden of the library is beautiful and imposing indeed.

June 2, 1927, was the day of formal opening. A simple ceremony in the open with a crowd approximating 4000 preceded the inspection. Dr Cyrus Adler, the president, was in the chair and his felicitous introductions were an outstanding feature of a notable program. The chairman of the Building committee presented the keys to the president observing that thru vicissitudes without number, and thru co-operation without stint, the library had reached its auspicious opening and that the outlook for happy and effective usefulness was as bright and fair as the day itself. (The day was one of unusual beauty and added to the glory of a truly great occasion in the history of American libraries). In accepting the keys, Librarian John Ashhurst, after a fitting reference to those who had helped to bring about the happy occasion, said: "If any one were to ask me what is the rarest and most valuable of the city's possessions in

this great building I would answer that it was not to be found in Assyrian and Babylonian tablets nor Greek or Latin codices nor illuminated medieval manuscripts nor incunabula nor first editions nor among maps, books, periodicals prints or public documents, but in the understanding minds, the loyal hearts and the capable hands of those proud to serve the city as members of the staff of the Free library."

Mayor Kendrick spoke of the library as the wonderful beginning of a wonderful boulevard which he hoped to see completed in his time. He then described in detail the status of the several building projects in early contemplation.

Charles B. Hall, the president of Council, who has been one of the staunchest friends of the library, spoke with enthusiasm of the usefulness of libraries, declaring that improvement of mind and morals would result from its activities. He paid a glowing tribute to Horace Trumbauer, the architect, and to Mr Ashhurst and to all who had been identified with the completion of the building.

The orator of the day was George Wharton Pepper, who described the growth from two modest rooms in the City Hall, 40 years ago, to the present \$6,500,000 structure, complete in every detail and beautiful beyond words, and the 29 branches scattered all over the city for the service of the people. His address was replete with living references to books and men. To the influence of books and the visions of the founders and the activities of those who had made the vision come true, he referred with that marvelous felicity which characterizes his utterances both public and private.

Altogether the speeches fitted one into another like a carefully designed mosaic and gave a conception of the value of libraries in general and of the Free library in particular and the opportunities of the new building which will have a far reaching effect in Philadelphia and far beyond.

An entrance hall, floored with marble in a black and white design, its

expanse broken by placid stone pillars, leads to an easy-sweeping stairway on the first landing of which rests on a pedestal a seated figure of Dr William Pepper, by Karl Bitter.

At the sides of the entrance are the doors leading to the reference room and periodical room, the first with a capacity of 12,000v. and the second of about 30,000. During the day, these rooms are flooded with natural light from high windows. The rows of reading tables, steel, with Windsor chairs, also of steel, so heavy they are easier to slide on the composition marble floor than to lift, are equipped with individual reading lamps.

The department for the blind, public documents reference room and the cataloging room, the latter two opening upon the book stacks, the telephone exchange, executive offices and the trustees' and committee rooms, occupy the remainder of the first floor.

In keeping with the desire to have every part of the building useful and always useful, the trustees' room is not a mere ornamental room for occasional use, but it houses the Bibliography department as well.

On the second floor are the main reading room, looking out on Logan Square, and Pepper hall, named after George S. Pepper, the earliest large benefactor, containing reference books. Both rooms are of equal dimensions 52x167, with ceilings 50 feet high. Thirteen large windows light the rooms in the day time.

Above this a second mezzanine contains 20 individual study rooms and many store rooms. Picture galleries, a rare book room, print room, manuscript, music and map rooms with two special reading rooms, occupy the remainder of the second floor.

On the third floor are three large exhibition rooms, or picture galleries, another rare book room, a photographing room and a kitchen and store room for the staff. Above, on the roof, is an open air reading room or roof garden, extending along nearly the whole front of the building, and an enclosed reading room for winter use.

Ground for the building was broken on May 12, 1917. The site, containing more than two acres, is bounded by 19th, 20th, Vine and Woods Streets and was obtained at a cost of \$214,585. The building has been constructed well within the \$6,500,000 appropriated for the purpose.

This is but a brief account of the auspicious opening of a great addition to the libraries of the world, but one word more should be added. The opening was attended by one of the largest and most representative gatherings that has ever attended a similar event in Philadelphia. Lawyers, clergymen, doctors, bankers, representative citizens generally were present in large numbers. School boys and girls just out of their classes were there in mass. The whole library staff and their friends and every type of public official from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the state to the lowliest clerk in City Hall were there. And all with one accord acclaimed the building as a thing of beauty and as an opportunity for untold usefulness. Built with people's money by the people's representatives, it bids fair to become one of the most popular of the people's institutions in the community.

CLINTON ROGERS WOODRUFF,
Chairman of the Building committee.

By the will of the late William R. Plum of Lombard, Ill., the handsome residence which was his home for many years has been given to the town of Lombard for a public library. The residence stands on a knoll on a five acre estate and contains valuable furniture, war relics and curios from many countries, and a large number of books. These are part of the bequest. The estate has been rather a show place on account of the great number and variety of lilacs, and it has also been left to Lombard as a public park. Col. Plum was widely known as a collector of lilacs and for more than half a century, the floral beauty of his home has been noted nationally. More than 300 varieties from all over the world grow on the estate.

A Hoosier Book Fair

An interesting book fair was held in the book department of A. S. Ayres and Company, Indianapolis, May 16-21. A number of publishing companies coöperated and the interest of the occasion was increased by the presence of many authors from all sections of the country. On every afternoon, different groups of writers were present and programs were presented. The decorations and arrangements of the part of the building where the fair was held were strongly suggestive of the ultra book covers now in vogue. Two large windows on the main street, done in similar style, held piles of books that attracted much attention.

Special days were designated and programs prepared accordingly. Thursday was Indiana day and the Ayres Company sent special invitations to all librarians of the state to whom a luncheon was served in the Indianapolis Athletic club. So many authors were present that it was possible to seat one at each small table at which three librarians had place. Meredith Nicholson presided, introducing Indiana authors as follows: Louis Howland, McCready Huston, Henry Lane Wilson, William Herschell, C. E. Scoggins, Max Ehrmann, Kate Milner Rabb, Margaret Weymouth Jackson, Chic Jackson, Marcus Dickey, Kin Hubbard.

Other authors present at other times were: Dr William E. Barton, Margaret Widdemer, Lawrence Rising, Alan Le May, Slason Thompson, Janet Fairbank, Richard Henry Little, Clarke Venable, Edgar A. Guest, Richard Halliburton, James Stevens, Helen Gardner and others.

Children's day was under the direction of Charles E. Rush, librarian of the Indianapolis public library. Authors present that day were: David Cory, Arthur Chrisman, Minnie Belle Mitchell, Jane Abbott. Mae Masee, expert on child reading, was welcomed by her many friends in the library circles.

The special displays were full of interest. These included among other things much Riley material. There

were photographs of Riley at various periods, many letters to him from literary people, and original manuscripts of a number of his poems. In the exhibition also were first and rare editions of many of the best writers, among which were Dickens' *Little Dorrit* and Thackeray's *The Newcomes*, in paper covers. N. L. C.

Another Book Exhibit at Leipzig

The International Book Art Exhibition, Leipzig, 1927, has been arranged by the *Verein Deutsche Buchkuenstler* (Society of German book artists), with the assistance of the city of Leipzig, Saxony and the German Republic.

For this purpose, Herr Ritter, the city architect, rearranged the ground floor of the Museum of plastic arts (*Museum der bildenden Kuenste*), into 40 rooms. The main hall houses the German exhibition and is decorated with monumental, colored frescoes bearing inscriptions from the works of Gerhart Hauptmann. All the other rooms are small in size and especially adapted for undisturbed observation.

The catalog of the exhibition with numerous illustrations and biographical data of the exhibiting artists, is to be published by the *Insel Verlag*.

There will be 20 states and about 1150 artists represented. The foreign collections have been arranged by special committees in the respective countries.

The exhibits embrace all phases of book art, printing, type making, manuscripts, handmade bindings, illustrations, graphic arts, etching, woodcuts and lithography. A number of artists are represented with large collections, among them E. R. Weiss, Walter Tiemann and Rudolf Koch.

An entire room is devoted to Gerhart Hauptmann. The exhibit of children's books of all nations is placed in the entrance hall. The booklover's room houses a magnificent collection including some of the most beautiful products of German presses.

The exhibition opens May 28 and will close by the end of September.

The A. L. A. Meeting of 1927 in Toronto.

Seldom have there been so beautiful surroundings of a meeting as those which it was the good fortune of the A. L. A. to enjoy this year at Toronto. True, some part of every meeting-place has been beautiful but this time it was beauty everywhere. The campus of the University of Toronto is a beauty spot in itself. The buildings are beautiful in architecture outside and furnished with taste within. Hart House, especially the Grand hall with its proportions, windows, and mural decorations of University shields, and was often distracting from the business in hand.

The number in attendance this year kept up the line of progression, the registration being nearly 2000 with many present who did not register. President Locke's special invitation to assistants had its effect for the majority of those in attendance looked young. The college residences were veritable "gardens of girls." As these went from meeting place to meeting place, they gave life and color to the landscape. That description would hardly fit the masculine part of the crowd—they were more staid and furnished the balance and border of the assemblage that were needed for a background.

The opening meeting on Monday evening in Convocation hall presented a picture, with the magnificent room in dark, somber colors lighted up by the colors in the audience. The rising rows of comfortable seats, the wonderful organ, the platform from which the gentlemen on the several programs delivered their addresses were most impressive.

The president, Dr George H. Locke, announced the opening of the forty-ninth convention of the American Library Association promptly at 8:30, which was followed by singing—first, God save our gracious King, then My country 'tis of thee, and finally O Canada.

The address of Canon Cody was a welcome on behalf of the Government of the Province of Ontario. There was

no uncertain tone in the grace of its delivery and its words carried the message of friendship and goodwill. One could but be impressed by the earnest belief of Sir Robert Falconer, president of the University, in the great institution over which he presides. One could not help wishing that one might hear him utter so great a belief in the library as a part of the educational machinery in his own institution and others like it as he expressed in the different departments of the University over which he so ably presides.

President Locke was the prince of presidents and his address (See p. 325) was received with hearty and oft-repeated applause. The effect of his long years of service as a director of various institutions was very evident, as he carried out a splendid program that varied neither in content or time from that which the various audiences were led to expect.

The reception that followed the meeting was too popular for comfort. It was held in the Senate Chamber of the university which was some distance from the Convocation hall, but the good natured line visited en route and on reaching the Senate Chamber were cordially greeted by Sir Robert and Lady Falconer, and President and Mrs Locke.

The second session opened with the recording of the reports of the secretary, treasurer and committees which were already in print. A welcome on behalf of the Public library and the city of Toronto was given by T. W. Banton, Esq., chairman of the board. Dr W. F. Russell, of Teachers College, Columbia University, the first speaker, was very graciously introduced by President Locke as the son of the man who had first introduced him into his life of work by naming him a member of his teaching staff at Harvard College, and it was with great pleasure that he presented the son of his esteemed friend.

Dr Russell was a most charming speaker. His address opened with a recital of his experiences and impres-

sions of an educational visit to Russia in 1918 where he saw poverty, repression and depression, where he visited schools that under the circumstances did not promise any great amount of intellectual development. From this he drew conclusions of what was necessary before civilization or intellectual development are possible. He named three necessary things: property rights, education and local government. The address was very stimulating and full of suggestion and interest, well worth time for study of it.

Colonel J. M. Mitchell, O.B.E., M.C., secretary of the Carnegie Trust of the United Kingdom, and member of the Government committee on public libraries of Great Britain, was received with great applause. This was the second visit of Colonel Mitchell to American library circles and his reception proved that he had made many friends. Colonel Mitchell reviewed the progress of library work in Great Britain, particularly the wonderful development in county libraries, pointing out the difference between that work as it is carried on in the United States and Great Britain. There are no great rural spaces there as is the case in the United States and Canada. The coöperation that is possible here between the urban library and the country districts is not possible there because where the county libraries have been founded thus far, particularly in England, the populations are urban, mostly homes of those whose business is in London. Colonel Mitchell gave a very encouraging picture of the conditions and progress and that the present movement when carried to its full fruition would solve the question of library service for Great Britain.

The address of Mr W. W. Bishop, constituting the report from the Committee on International relations, was read in his absence by Mr George B. Utley. The report was a lengthy one but the reader took from it such parts and amount of the address as raised expectations and desire for the rest of it.

International relations

The work of the Committee on International relations, of considerable extent and value, is an aftermath of the meeting of Atlantic City. That meeting seems likely to be known as marking the beginning of effective, practical coöperation of libraries of Europe, Asia and North and South America. The international relations of the American Library Association offer a very considerable amount of work not only to members of the committee but to the Headquarters of the Association. Some of the matters receiving attention by the committee during the year were: Recommendation of Mr Cohen, delegate from Chile at the Fiftieth Anniversary conference, that the subject of exchange both of bibliographic information and of documents should be put on the agenda of the Pan-American congress to be held in January, 1928, in Havana. Correspondence has brought this about and the subject will receive the careful consideration of the delegates from all the countries of the Western hemisphere, who will be there. The report recommended that the United States be represented either by a delegate from the A. L. A. or by the Library of Congress. A great change is marked, from the indifference of earlier years to the attention that is now given to the League of Nations and the Committee on intellectual coöperation who have rendered reports of experts on bibliographical subjects during the last three years.

The exchange of librarians and students between countries would be impractical because of the immigration laws, not only of the United States but of other countries. Mr Bishop urged that the Committee on Federal and State federations take up the matter directly at the next session of Congress and endeavor to get librarians placed in the same class as teachers so far as our immigration laws are concerned.

The report related that the Brussell Institute is calling a conference of interested people to consider the expan-

sion of the decimal classification and particularly its international features. The report stated that the most important part of its work related to the idea developed among the group of international delegates to the Atlantic City conference who requested consideration of an international library committee, or an international federation of library associations and that delegates be sent to the Edinburgh conference, to be held next September, prepared to discuss and act upon such proposals. Reports from only six organizations out of a very much larger total had been received. Three were opposed and three, Czecho-Slovakia, Finland and China, in favor of it. Doubtless there will be other important associations of librarians in European countries represented at the Edinburgh conference where the matter will doubtless receive attention and some conference action be taken. Difficulties in the way will be finance, natural difference of opinion and the differences in the agencies on the continent where many of the organizations are not entirely voluntary. The American and British and some of the continental libraries acting thru voluntary organizations present a real line of cleavage.

A report was given of a meeting of library experts in Paris in April where a number of questions were discussed—the means and desirability of creating national centers of bibliographic information, methods of handling inter-library loans between countries and the importance of establishing a library section in the Institute of Intellectual Coöperation in Paris. Attention was given to book lists and union lists. A union list should be preliminary to the creation of international or universal lists. These are a necessary and vital prelude to the formation of the "universal catalog."

The question of inter-library loan of valuable manuscripts and books, the writer said, deserves attention and it is hoped that the customs difficulty may be overcome so that books marked definitely as inter-library loans, sent

out under the seal of a public institution, may be passed under that seal across the customs barrier. This ought not to be a hard thing to accomplish in the case of inter-library loans between the United States and Canada at least. The report expressed the regret that many of the important libraries did not pay attention to the communications and circulars from the Paris Institute of Intellectual Coöperation, a body which seems peculiarly fitted to gather statistics and to serve as a secretariat in the library field. The writer expressed mortification in that small libraries in North Dakota and Arkansas figure largely in reports, when Harvard, Yale and other universities, who do not respond to inquiries, do not appear at all.

The report spoke very glowingly of the American library school in Paris and made a plea for funds for the continuance of its support.

Report was made of the grant of \$3800 from the trustees of Carnegie Endowment to meet the requests from abroad that have come to the secretary's office for publications of the A. L. A. and other American books and pamphlets for library work for which there were no funds. This grant is highly appreciated as it will enable Headquarters to meet requests for information as to development of library work in the United States. The thanks of the Association are due to the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace for the assistance which will provide satisfactory and efficient means to develop the international features of the Association. It is inevitable that the international side of the A. L. A. work will grow and expand.

On Wednesday evening, instead of a general session, the visitors were the guests of the Government of the Province at a reception in Hart House. This was one of the most delightful occasions of the whole week. The quadrangle of Hart House lent itself admirably to the occasion. A balustraded terrace from which steps descended to greensward with walks, a

beautiful fountain, with the band of the Queen's Own Regiment of Highlanders, the multitude of colors furnished by the dresses of the ladies, the good cheer of both hosts and the great pleasure of the visitors made a memorable occasion. President and Mrs Locke cordially received the guests, visiting with old friends and meeting new ones. The long evening twilight of the northern climate added greatly to the pleasure. At ten o'clock, it was still light while the golden glow of the sun that had gone added to the beauty of the scenery.

The Hart House theater had been put at the use of the dramatic corps of the libraries of Detroit, New York, and St. Louis, and during the evening these clubs each added to the dramatic entertainment. Perhaps that which was most generally enjoyed was the list of quizzes and answers presented by the St. Louis staff under the leadership of Dr Bostwick who as a quizzer, was shown in a new role. The quips and pleasantries directed at well known library folk were much enjoyed by the audience. So great was the popularity of the plays that there was a repetition of the performance so that it was twelve o'clock before the second performance had closed. Mr Henry Button, of the J. M. Dent Company of Toronto, added greatly to the joy and fun of the occasion by his indescribable, incomparable announcements. Those who enjoyed dancing had good music and fine opportunity in the gymnasium of Hart House where the pleasure lasted until twelve. Supper was served in the great hall for those who felt the need of inner refreshment.

Thursday evening was opened with an hour of singing by the choir of boys from the Duke of Connaught school. This was delightful in itself and very pleasurable in showing what good teaching and direction had done for the polyglot group in the choir.

The book and the person who knows the book, by Dr E. C. Richardson of the Library of Congress, was one of

the outstanding papers of the conference. (This will be presented later in full). Salvaging the specialist (See p. 330), by Mr Telford of Washington, was a good, timely presentation and made many a one in the audience "sit up and take notice." The interdependence of adult and juvenile departments, by Charles E. Rush of the Indianapolis public library, was a plea for "the intermediate" which has long been needed and whose place in the library scheme, except in few instances like Cleveland and Indianapolis, has not been filled. The meeting closed with the annual presentation of the Newbery medal by the chairman of the Children's section, in this instance, Louise P. Latimer of the Public library of the District of Columbia. The award this year was made to William James for his book, *Smoky*. The award evidently pleased the audience as the applause was most hearty and prolonged.

The Warden of Hart House was introduced at Friday evening's meeting and was warmly received by the audience. His explanation of what Hart House is—the social center for men of the great university—was most interesting to many of his audience who had been almost at sea to understand the use to which the very handsome building had been put, namely, "to feed the multitude." After the Warden's speech in which he said it hurt him to think of the place being regarded as a restaurant, a feeling in which a multitude joined him, the report of the election was recorded:

Officers for 1928

President, Carl B. Roden, librarian, Public library, Chicago; first vice-president, Charles H. Compton, Public library, St. Louis; second vice-president, Charles E. Rush, Public library, Indianapolis; treasurer, Matthew S. Dudgeon, Public library, Milwaukee; trustee of the Endowment fund, Harry A. Wheeler, Chicago.

Members of the Executive Board—Louise B. Krause, Chicago, and C. C. Williamson, Columbia University libraries, New York City.

Members of the Council—Mildred H. Pope, Girard College library, Philadelphia; Nell Unger, University of the State of New York, Albany; W. O. Carson, Ontario department of education, Toronto; John A.

Lowe, Public library, Brooklyn; Charles V. Park, Stanford University library, California.

The Resolutions committee, Walter L. Brown, chairman, Mary S. Saxe and Mary Eileen Ahern, presented resolutions expressing hearty appreciation of and thanks for the hospitality and courtesy of the University of Toronto and its various members, of the press of the city and others who contributed to the comfort and the pleasure of the convention; a resolution of regret for the enforced absence—the first in many years—of Eva M. Ford, registrar, and likewise regret at the death of Dr Hosmer and Miss Doren, ex-officers of the A. L. A., and others who died within the year who had made notable contributions to library progress.

The speaker of the evening was Principal W. L. Grant of Upper Canada College. He quite won the the audience with his rallies of good humor interspersed by serious appreciation of the work of the library. Some political shadings in his address, as well as in the address of the first evening by Canon Cody, caused a bit of surprise to the visitors from the United States. Mr Grant called attention to the fact that the day was the one hundred and fifty-first anniversary of the writing of the Declaration of Independence, contrasting it with the Imperial conference of a century later which he called the Declaration of Interdependence. The keynote of the first was liberty. The keynote of the second was another note of the human spirit—loyalty. The first a new experiment, the second a continuity, whose highest ambition is to make North America a two-power continent in the closest harmony and the closest coöperation. Said Principal Grant, "I ask all Canadians not to worry too much about Big Bill Thompson, Mayor of Chicago. He occasionally says things about King George to which Canadians can not agree, and I ask Americans not to take too seriously if in the heat of a political struggle any Canadian editor tries to wrench a feather or two from the eagle's tail."

After the speaking, the business of the Association was well put out of way quickly and the wonderful quartet of Hart House came on the stage and delighted the great audience with a program of Schubert music that held it almost breathless. Technic, ensemble and soul were in perfect unison, and the applause that followed each number gave vent to the delight of the audience. The concert by these master musicians was a contribution from the Hon. Vincent Massey, minister from Canada to the United States, to the A. L. A. as visitors to Toronto.

Then came on the *pièce de résistance* in the singing of M. Marchand and his quartet known as the Bytown Troubadours, who sang the chanson of the *voyageur* the *habitant* and the *coureur-de-bois*. The singers were dressed in the costume of their craft and their march thru the aisles of the hall on their entrance caught the attention of their audience which they held spell-bound to the last moment of their exit in the same fashion. Their program concluded with the singing of *Alouette* in the refrain of which many of the audience joined.

Notes

A fact which seemed to escape the attention of most of the Canadian speakers was that the American Library Association has 200 members from Canada while an equal number of non-member Canadians were present. The awkwardness of the use of the word "American" to designate matters emanating from United States was frequently apparent. The Canadian speakers referred constantly to "you" speaking of some phase of the work of the A. L. A. crediting it all to the United States, an honor not deserved.

The John Newbery medal for the most distinguished children's book of the past year was awarded to Will James for his book "Smoky," by Louise P. Latimer, chairman of the Children's Librarians section. Mr James was prevented from being present by illness.

From the first warbled note to the last warbled note what a success it was! Such harmony, no discord, no flats, no sharps, in that land of hope and glory, which is and was, and evermore shall be, a memory of pure delight for all who attended the A. L. A. at Toronto this year!

When the waves of Lake Ontario lapped their welcome on the shores, when the trees in Queens Park furnished welcoming and farewell boughs, what new ideas came to us, what new stimulus stirred our brains and hearts!

Where titled people came out to greet us, where a perfect host and hostess presided, and the addresses—What perfectly splendid speakers, such flawless English and resonant voices! And dear old Sir William Mulock assured us, they were just ordinary citizens speaking in their ordinary manner.

Where, O where, shall we ever get such a background again? Well, possibly, just possibly, in Montreal or in Heaven. M. S.

The personal popularity of the officers of the A. L. A. is much enhanced by the graciousness of their wives, not a few have owed much in this direction. This year was ideal, for the gracious courtesy and hospitality of of Mrs Locke made for herself a host of friends and many a new member will recall her as one of outstanding sources of delight in remembering the Toronto conference.

Many members of the A. L. A., of the vintage before prohibition of "old 'uns," were very happy to meet again at Toronto, a former favorite, Mr George Iles, a Canadian journalist who divides his time between Montreal and New York. Mr Iles made possible most of the bibliographical publications of the A. L. A. in the late nineties and the first decade of 1900 and was always a welcome speaker on his favorite topic—The appraisal of literature. He was of the first to take out a life membership in A. L. A.

An unanswered question of the week was, What constitutes distinguished service?

Some Abstracts of Section and Round-table Papers

The collection of business information by small public libraries

From a talk by Ann D. White, H. M. Byllesby & Co., Chicago, before the Business Libraries round-table.

Current newspapers and periodicals are more valuable to the librarian of small public libraries than books on business subjects. Books are out of date before they are off the press.

The business periodicals to be recommended for a small public library of limited budget are *Commercial and Financial Chronicle*, *Barron's*, *Federal Reserve Bulletin*, *Survey of Current Business* and *Printer's Ink*.

Government documents on business subjects can be procured free of cost and there are many bulletins and letters on financial and trade conditions sent free on request by some of the large banks of the country. Material is available thru chambers of commerce and thru national trade associations.

Small public libraries as well as the large ones in the country will find that giving information service to business men will convince them of the necessity for levying taxes to support the public library.

Books for architects

From a talk by Marion Comings, the Burnham library of Architecture, Art Institute, Chicago, at the Art Reference round-table.

Burnham library was founded by an architect, for architects, and its books have been selected by architects.

Because of its downtown situation, it is available to the profession. It is used also by the school of Armour Institute in their architectural design.

The value to the library of a book committee of architects with advisory powers has been demonstrated. This committee acts as an articulate public, making known to the trustees the particular needs of the profession. The most striking example is their recent action in securing from the Art Institute the privilege of circulation of books among the profession under certain restrictions of dues, rental, etc. Another advantage of such a committee is their action in emergencies. The

Fountain collection was secured this year only thru the energetic action of our committee who got a well-informed architect in London to go over to Paris and see the collection while we had an option on it, and finally close the deal. The chairman personally signed eleven hundred typed letters to architects and friends appealing for subscriptions to pay for this collection. The committee is the life of the library.

In book selection such a committee is invaluable, getting the books actually used by architects. A library for architects can largely ignore archaeological publications, books on styles of little influence or applicability. It must be based on plans, elevations drawn to a scale, measured drawings of details, color plates, good draughtsmanship, and imagination in design. Architects know books by their contents rather than by their name, and as they think in terms of style it is well to emphasize the style in classification.

Humanizing a library building

Abstract of a talk by Dr A. E. Bostwick, Librarian, Public Library, St. Louis, Missouri, at the Library Building round-table.

What is there about a library building that needs to be considered in the relations of book and reader? A potential reader must know, first, that the building is a library, and, second, of its functions and his possible relations to them. A library should not be likely to be mistaken for a railroad station, a city hall, a bank, or a factory.

Libraries in rented stores with large windows, thru which every passerby may see what is going on inside serve this purpose well. There is no better publicity. Until recently, however, no large buildings have been built in this style. A new branch in Grand Rapids and the Carpenter branch in St. Louis, opened last February, have been so planned with success.

In the interior, arrangement and equipment are important. Of first importance is the general impression on entering the room. The old library was too institutional. The first archi-

tect who designs a large building in which the reader walks immediately into a book room and yet succeeds in achieving a spacious and dignified entrance, will have accomplished something. In general, the so-called popular features that claim the attention of a new reader and induce him to make a second visit, should catch his eye on entrance; for instance, wall shelving with attractively bound books, good pictures, comfortable and useful furniture, all the mechanical and human aids that can be offered to him—catalog lists, the desk of the readers' adviser, the information desk.

Two things, both distinctly American, which have done much to humanize our libraries, are the open shelf and home use. Both have modified arrangement and equipment, but librarians have not yet brought buildings into complete correspondence with them. For instance, some books are placed too near the floor and others too far above the head of the reader.

The working conditions of the library staff often influence service. Staff quarters if possible should be on the same floor with the workers who use them and near their working space. This is also true of work rooms to which the public is not admitted.

The adaptation of library furniture to its uses is an important item in humanization. But fashion governs here as elsewhere and we can not afford to neglect considering it. Aspidal stack-rooms are no longer in vogue, and outdoor reading rooms are unpopular for no apparent reason.

Births and deaths in the periodical world

Frederick W. Faxon of the F. W. Faxon Co., Boston, given at the Periodical round-table, Wednesday morning, June 22.

It is said that the first magazine that really deserved the name was the *Athenian Gazette* which appeared in London in 1691. It was much like the present *Notes and Queries* that is still published there. *Gentleman's Magazine* starting in 1731 is the real beginning of the monthly magazine such as we know it in recent years.

In this country, Boston and Philadel-

phia were early centers of magazine publishing. The *North American Review* started in Boston in 1815 was destined to be as famous as its British prototypes, the *Quarterly Review* and the *Edinburgh Review*, which started some 10 years earlier. The *Massachusetts Magazine* of 1789 and Carey's *American Museum* published in Philadelphia in 1787 are interesting early examples of American magazines. In 1820 *Godey's Lady's Book* started and was famous for many years for its fashions, and the prints are still eagerly sought by collectors who use them for tray and lamp shade purposes. *Harpers Magazine* was born in 1850; *Atlantic Monthly* in 1857; *Scribners Magazine* in 1873, and soon after, the deluge of modern magazines started, about 7,000 being now listed in the latest volume of *Ayer's Newspaper Annual*.

According to *Ayer's Newspaper Annual*, last edition, the births in the periodical field including newspapers were last year 952, while the mortality during the same year was 942, an interesting sidelight on the great number of changes in a year when the total publications varied only 10 titles.

Library extension in British Columbia

Abstract of a talk by Herbert Killam, secretary of the British Columbia public library commission before the League of library commissions on June 24.

Library extension is occupying much of the thought and activity of the new Public Library commission. The first item on its program is a library survey which will determine the library resources of the Province, the lack of library facilities, the reason for such lack, and the best methods to be adopted for remedying the present state of affairs. A Research council of many persons throughout the Province will assist in gathering information, in advising as to the needs of their respective communities, and in recommending methods of procedure.

As more than one-half of the population of the Province is concentrated in the southwest corner of the Province, almost the whole territory—an area of 355,000 square miles, is a field for library extension. Even part of the

thickly populated district is without public libraries, and has no library service except that rendered by Public Library associations and travelling libraries.

There are only six public libraries in the Province, four of them being in the southwest corner, one on the western coast 510 miles from the capital, the other in the southeastern interior, 300 miles from the capital. There are about 35,000 books in the Library commission's travelling library stock, and 278 collections were sent last year to 220 communities. These books were sent chiefly for community use, but forty rural schools, lighthouses, canneries, lumber-camps, and a number of Public Library associations had a share.

From a collection of 7,000 volumes, planned to meet the demand for special reading and study, 2,527 volumes were sent to 1,185 individual borrowers.

We have made lists of selected books, have supplied materials for debates and essays, and have carried on the usual business of a library extension department.

From law libraries

"Bar and allied association publications" were discussed in a paper read by A. J. Small, law librarian of the Iowa state library.

Mr Small called attention to the proceedings of the various state and national legal associations and their supplemental publications, and emphasized the importance of the legal literature contained therein. He said that from no other source or group of books could a greater array of legal literature be found, where the master minds of the past and modern generations have expressed their thoughts and ideas, wielding a mighty influence in shaping the legal destiny of our nation, and bringing about unanimity and uniformity of laws, practice and procedure.

Mr Small also gave tabulations of historical and bibliographical data relative to the supplemental publications of the various associations; such as, journals, reviews, bulletins, etc., giving the time and date of their origin and the nature of each periodical.

Book selection

The Order and Book Selection round-table was under the direction of Leta E. Adams, head of the order department, Public library, Cleveland. A most unusual interest was manifest in this meeting and long before it was called to order, every bit of available space in the room was occupied and a great crowd stood on the outside. The first paper was on Buying books in nine languages, being the personal experiences of Mrs E. E. Ledbetter of the Public library, Cleveland, in south Central Europe. An important fact which developed in relating her experience is that there is a very friendly feeling towards American library service brought about largely by the special attention which has been given to foreign readers in the public libraries of America.

The report of the book production committee was given by Mary Gould Davis of New York, showing a very satisfactory spirit on the part of the publishers in bringing back into print juvenile books now out of print. Librarians are urged to send suggestions to the committee and to publishers of books possessing sufficient merit to be reprinted. (See p. 370)

Miss Edith Guerrier of Boston was enthusiastically received. Her previous appearance on programs warranted an expectation of wit and wisdom. There was no disappointment on this occasion. Miss Guerrier in her inimitable, charming manner caught the attention of her audience and gave an illustrated lecture on their experiences in Boston in surveying a community for its book needs. She told of the futility of looking to municipal sources for information, and outlined the plan which they used in Boston to obtain the information they needed. (Miss Guerrier's paper will be printed later)

Thru Harold Brigham, F. K. W. Drury outlined what he was expecting to put into his forthcoming book on Book selection and Order work. The material in print on the subject is scattered and of varying quality so that Mr Drury's

efforts are directed towards building up a definite plan and purpose for those who are to engage in the machinery of choosing books and placing them in libraries.

A symposium by a number of speakers gave much satisfaction to the audience, judging by the enthusiasm with which their work was received. The topic, "The book I have enjoyed most in the past year," was opened by Miss Mary Eileen Ahern, editor of *LIBRARIES*. Miss Ahern chose "A daughter of the Samurai," by Mme Etsu Inagaki Sugimoto, of Columbia University, which was evidently a favorite with many in the audience. "The daughter of the Samurai" is the story of a little girl belonging to that class, as her life proceeded from early childhood just after the abolishment of the Samurai, describing her home life under varying circumstances, the customs of the country and the individual habits of the people, giving her own experiences as she passed thru the various circumstances of her life, from a little girl, thru her school days, preparation for marriage, journey to America, and her experience there up to the time of the death of her husband, when she with her two children returned to Japan. The story is most fascinating and the speaker recommended it heartily for readers of every kind, from childhood to old age.

Dr A. E. Bostwick of St. Louis chose Read 'em and weep by S. G. Spaeth. Dr Bostwick pronounced this a most delightful collection carefully gathered by the author—a delectable compilation of folk songs, old poetry, old tales and characteristic customs which Dr Bostwick said belied the suggestion of weeping, unless it were for a matter of sentiment as they might recall to one and another the circumstances under which they had first been heard.

Miss Emily Van Dorn Miller, editor of *A. L. A. Booklist*, reviewed The advancing South. This was written by Professor Mimms of Vanderbilt University. Miss Miller called the book "the voice of the South uttering a plea for freedom and understanding."

There is no question in the minds of the southern people themselves about the movement onward and upward out of the handicap of the last half century. There is a new movement—a new spirit and new ideals in the South. Custom and habit no longer rule. Literature and art, philosophy and religion, commerce and industry are going forward, not in lines laid down by others, perhaps, but under conditions generated by the southern environment. Special attention was called to the development of manufacturing in the South. No longer is it felt necessary to send raw material away and receive at advanced cost the products manufactured elsewhere. Factories are dotting the South everywhere by which the raw material is made into marketable products of superior quality. Schools and libraries are multiplying in no less ratio than is the case in other parts of the country.

Paul M. Paine of Syracuse read most effectively some extracts from Winnie-the-Pooh, captivating his audience, both those who had read it and those who had not.

Marion R. Service of Detroit told of the great pleasure she found in Graham's Gentle art of tramping. The story fits the title—there is nothing hurried or rough in it and the preparation for and execution of well-considered plans for the journeying give time and skill for enjoying of scenery, the weather, the live things and the experiences that entered so enjoyably into each day.

Milton J. Ferguson, state librarian of California, reviewed Beebe's Pheasant jungles in the manner of a true Californian used to the great open spaces with love and interest in them and all that pertains thereto.

William F. Yust of Rochester chose for his book a recent life of Robert Ingersoll. He stated frankly that he thought it was a poor book—poorly written, poorly printed, poorly bound, without a table of contents, and not much of a title page. He chose it because he himself was a great admirer of Ingersoll. He proved this by the

satisfaction with which he related his own experience of walking five miles to hear Ingersoll, his enjoyment of the lecture given, repeating the questionable stories which excited his mirth. Mr Yust closed by recommending to everyone "The mistakes of Moses" and "What shall I do to be saved," as two books which should be read.

A new publicity feature

One of the interesting gatherings was the Publicity round-table under the direction of Mr Carl L Cannon of the New York public library. This program was rather a departure from the stereotyped form. Talks were given by librarians: first, To the city board in presenting the library's annual budget, by Samuel H. Ranck; second, To a meeting of county officials and county taxpayers on the establishment of a county library, by Sarah B. Askew; third, To a political gathering on the necessity of voting the library bond issue, by Chalmers Hadley. There was a public speaking expert, Professor A. M. Drummond of Cornell University and a jury of which M. J. Ferguson of California was foreman. A ten-minute criticism of each speaker was made by Professor Drummond on subject matter and manner of presentation, followed by criticism by the foreman of the jury from the standpoint of a library.

The criticism on the first speaker was to the effect that he was slow in reaching the point he had to offer and that he covered too much ground in his presentation. In other words, he was advised to talk to the point and stop when he had reached it. The criticism on the second speech was to the effect that it was a bit too flippant, a bit too free on slight acquaintance, and more of an enjoyable conversation than a serious effect to be secured. A criticism that brought a ready retort from the speaker was that such a decided New York accent would militate against obtaining the request that was made. The audience was quick to sense the mistake, tho the speaker came promptly to the rescue with a

warning that such an impression be not conveyed in her native heath, for in truth she was "born and bred in the briar patch."

The comment on the third speaker was to the effect that the scholarly presentation of facts and figures would leave the average politicians cold. A reasonable request was made but without sufficient appeal to the local sentiment, as if to leave the decision in the hands of those who were to make it, who too often are not really intelligent about the situation but are moved very largely by the appeal that is made. In this instance, the case seemed to rest on its merits which probably would not be recognized by the politicians. The decisions from the jury were most facetious and added much to the enjoyment of the occasion.

This procedure in discussion in a meeting was new but full of interest and doubtless much more effective than the usual order of affairs.

A. L. A. Reports

The secretary of the American Library Association in preparing his annual report for 1926-27, puts it in a new aspect—using a somewhat narrative form. Needless to say, it makes a good story. This story opens with a visitor asking what is done. The setting very properly is the office on the ninth floor of the John Crerar building with the arrangements making for convenience and pleasant appearance.

The visitor is conducted first to Miss Merrill whose job is to "assist in the establishment and development of public libraries." In a most entertaining fashion, Miss Merrill tells of her experiences since January 1 as she has traveled about to the far west, to the southeast and west, what she saw and heard and did and advised. Wonder at what Miss Merrill's head can hold ceased long ago. The wonder now rests on how she covered the ground and did all the things set out in the story of her last six months. The visitor was then conducted from one to another desk where she was "shown."

Perhaps no one connected with A. L. A. Headquarters has had the responsibility for such a multitude of definite things as that which has rested on the shoulders of Miss Eva Ford, who has been a member of Headquarters' staff almost from the beginning. Details innumerable, connected with the administrative affairs, not only of Headquarters but of annual conventions, have received her faithful and constant attention. While the increase in staff has transferred many of her former duties into other hands, as is pointed out, there is a lot of detail work in keeping track of 10,000 members. (So arduous, indeed, has been the demand on the vitality of Miss Ford these many years that to the great distress of her host of admirers and faithful friends, she was forced from the ranks a while back and is still confined to her home by ill health. Sincere good wishes of thousands of friends for her speedy and full recovery surround Miss Ford.—*Editor of LIBRARIES*)

The Adult Education department under Mr Dickerson encompasses him by "innumerable files." As one reads the story of his attempting to answer the inquiries of those who want "to know everything being done by readers' advisers," of the visitors from a score of organizations besides librarians, of the demands by associations other than those of librarianship where he is asked to speak on the readiness and preparedness of libraries to meet the needs of their adult readers, of the tremendous amount of information which he has gathered about adult activities, one wonders how he finds the time to issue a quarterly bulletin, *The Library and Adult Education*, to prepare articles for magazines and to prepare exhibits and leaflets concerning his work.

One whose daily vocation is scribbling feels something akin to envy as she reads about Miss Miller, editor of publications, in an alcove by a window overlooking Michigan Boulevard. But when the scribbler reads further of the lists and lists and lists and proofs and

proofs and proofs, and criticisms, and manuscripts read and the lists of publications—Care and treatment of music, Stories and poems for opening exercises, Lists of Swedish books, reprints, volumes three and four of the Survey, and others too numerous to mention that fall to Miss Miller's lot, the joyful vision of sitting in an alcove looking at Michigan Avenue fades away. More than that, as Miss Miller, explained to the visitor, the processes thru which a manuscript passes, the various committees and persons to whom it is submitted, not to mention the critical author, and Executive Board, editorial committee and printers, the style and quality of paper and the binding and selling price of the number of things that are issued, most of which pass thru the editor's hands, what started out to be envy subsides into a wave of thanksgiving for the more humble position of the scribbler. And back of what has been mentioned is the *Booklist* and tho specialists are there to advise and perform, responsibility still rests on Miss Miller.

Mr Fontaine, responsible for selling publications and handling *Booklist* subscriptions, must be the envy of many another whose prosperity depends on his sales, as one reads of "an order just in for a thousand copies" and 40 various smaller orders, advance orders, etc. His work relating to exhibits sounds interesting. Not only national and international meetings but district, state and sectional meetings have a call on his department for any exhibit they may like. His showing at the end of the year is not so bad! Sales of over \$85,000, 508 copies of publications sold, with over 170,000 distributed free, over 100,000 letters and advertising circulars and 25,000 news releases distributed in one year, is really not a bad report!

The visitor, at luncheon with Miss Bogle and her associates on the staff of the Board of Education for Librarianship, learned why it is necessary for the Board of Education to have a secretary, an executive assistant and

three professional assistants. One day's work related to 16 situations—each separate, apart and unlike any of the others, and yet leaving "spare time for the filing of cards listing last year's graduates of one of the library schools"!

The advisory work, as set out by Miss Herron, sounds like a man-size job, reaching from the European fellowship thru every phase of that difficult subject, which after naming a score of situations handled relating to studies, degrees, scholarships and fellowships, has an addenda of other related subjects. Miss Fargo tells of the real territory she covered in relation to her study of school library work, with an addition of innumerable letters, addresses, criticisms and meetings interested in the subject.

Miss Bogle and Miss Howe related the story of their visits at library schools, with members of the board, for the purpose of accrediting, advising, recommending and conferring with university and college authorities, educational associations, directors of library schools, with unlimited correspondence about the "many aspects of Education for Librarianship."

On return from lunch, the library visitor was fortunate enough, just inside the door, to have a talk with Miss English, the office librarian. As she exhibited the questions which had come recently to her for information and advice, the visitor was of the opinion that no busy reference room in any municipal library had much the better of Miss English in the consumption of her time, the extent of territory investigated and the hopelessness of finding much of the information that exists only nowhere.

The disbursing officer and the office manager of this very important A.L.A. clientele might be tho't to be handicapped by his patronym which happens to be *Mr Dooley*, *R. E. Dooley*, because it will be very apparent at first, undoubtedly it was to the visitor, that to care for the thousand and one requirements that would arise out of such an

aggregation, not to mention the members' checks, payments and receipts, etc., etc., there would be small time left to exercise the wit and wisdom which the American public and all librarians have learned to expect at the mere mention of the word *Dooley*. But there can be no question of his ability and readiness in that line.

Across the aisle from Mr Dooley sits Miss Rowden, editor of the *A. L. A. Bulletin* and in charge of publicity. She it is who has to care for the details that keep the members in touch with what is going on at Headquarters and in the association generally, and to bring library matters to the attention of the public. How thoroly she does this is too well known to need enlargement.

In Secretary Milam's office, the visitor meets Miss Bogle, director of the Paris library school, who speaks of the high regard in which the school is held in Europe, the growth of its influence, the enlargement of its scope and the difficult task of re-financing the school from time to time. There are two more years left of the five-year demonstration plan undertaken to justify the value of the effort. The need for the support of this is urgent. Miss Bogle's time is given theoretically, one-third to the supervision of the activities of the Board of Education for Librarianship and personnel problems relating thereto, one-third to the Paris library school and one-third to the general activities of the A. L. A. But the visitor had realized by this time that not all of Miss Bogle's days could be confined by such lines as those, and her wonderment grew at the look of robust health, the signs of undiminished energy and the exhibition of a will power that seemed ready to face any dilemma. As Miss Bogle related typical experiences, the visitor felt the injustice of the oft-heard remark, "She has the mind of a man," for where is the man in A. L. A., or out of it, who produces like results from so many directions?

When the time came for the visitor to hear from the "Big Chief," she wondered what there would be left for him to say. Perhaps members of the A. L. A. may find themselves in the same quandary, but after reading of the conferences, preparation of plans and arrangements for conferences, celebrations and lists, of receiving and answering mail, of meetings with the members of the A. L. A. staff, of time consumed, not only by travel but by conferences, interviews, plans and a multitude of attending interests, one is sure the visitor took her departure with no feeling left except that of sheer wonderment. As she emerged from the building, she did not even know what street or direction was being traversed, and was saved from annihilation only by the quick action of the corner policeman as a grand limousine swept around the corner!

Special reports

After the departure of the visitor the story form disappears and the special reports are presented in regulation form and show a year of activity and accountability. On *Publications* it is shown that the cost of the publications for the year (April 1, 1926-March 31, 1927) was \$65,888 and the sale of publications netted \$96,235.

The report of the Paris library is presented by Burton Stevenson, director, and is full of interest and information not only concerning the library but of conditions thru and under which it works abroad. The library has been placed upon a self-supporting basis as far as its circulation work is concerned, and the interest and coöperation of the leading publishers of America has been secured in increasing and strengthening its book collection. Since October, 1926, the circulation library has been self-supporting; that is, the people who use it pay for it, putting that part of the library on a subscription basis. The receipts for the last six months of 1926 were double the receipts for the same period in 1925.

Before leaving for France in 1926, Mr Stevenson secured from the American Book Publishers' association an agreement that they would select from

their announcements and catalogs such selected books as were of special value to the Paris library where they would be exhibited in a room set apart for that purpose, where catalogs and lists would be distributed, and where expert information about American publications could be secured. As newer books replaced the older ones, the latter were to be withdrawn from the exhibition and placed upon the shelves of the library for the use of its readers. There are 65 of the leading publishers sending forward the best of their books on this basis.

In December, 1926, an exhibition of children's books, in which 32 American and English publishers participated, was successfully given. The English publishers are also generous in sending copies of their latest books for review by the Paris library staff.

The process of distributing books to a selected list of libraries thruout Europe has been most interesting. These books, dealing with American and European history, agriculture, economics and engineering, etc., are the surplus stock of the books furnished in '18, '19, to the Army of Occupation. Some 75 or 80 cases were stored in Paris unopened. These were classified and listed and careful inquiry made as to where they would give the greatest service. The lists are in the hands of the libraries and teachers all over Central Europe and the Near East, and the books are being sent thru diplomatic channels, proportionately, to whom they are of value. A new project is under discussion—the advisability of establishing a department of American law in the Paris library. This is under consideration by American lawyers, the American Bar association and state law associations and bids fair to become a successful project.

Almost 3000v. were loaned thru the expansion department of the *Bibliothèque Nationale* to universities.

The Book Binding committee reports that the practice known as *reinforcing* and *reconstructing* is now widely recognized and the library binders are furnishing libraries with strongly bound books.

Librarians are asked to coöperate with such publishers and binders as do this, as it is well worth the support, being really a saving of funds in the end not to mention greater convenience and use. The report is valuable, and contains definite statements made with regard to quality of paper and binding. Commendation is offered the *New York Times* and the *United States Daily* for issuing special rag edition newspapers for reference use. New editions of two of the committee's leaflets, *Care of books in libraries* (1919), and *Preparation of periodicals for binding*, by Gertrude Stiles (1923), have been revised.

The Book Buying committee has had three problems before it—Copyright legislation, in which, as no action affecting libraries was taken, no action by the committee was necessary. The German periodical costs have increased two and one-half times in five years, "a single journal costing more than \$200 a year." Foreign transportation costs with a 10 per cent commission, was so indefensible that the committee has secured a reduction of five per cent in the case of German periodicals of 1927.

Strong condemnation is expressed of the use of thin paper in producing reference books required in public libraries. Librarians are asked to protest steadily against it, and in order to make these protests effective, whenever possible, to refrain from buying these thin paper reference books. The tendency to employ unduly heavy paper in ordinary books is also under condemnation. Caution is advised in the case of new encyclopedias, and librarians are asked to examine the claim of revision critically.

The practice of leasing commercial atlases instead of outright sale, and of the submission of unsolicited inspection books are both condemned.

The Book Production committee regrets that there has been no opportunity for actual discussion at committee meetings during the year. It repeats the condemnation of the Book Buying committee relating to paper, printing and bindings. Favorable attention is asked for the special library edition of the *New*

York Times and for the *United States Daily* rag paper editions for special use. Thin paper and heavy paper both come in for severe criticism. Publishers complain that while librarians demand books printed on better paper, they buy cheap editions and fail to support the better printed ones. Manufacturers in other fields have learned that good productions are supported, and provide material accordingly. "The committee recommends that the librarians support, as far as funds and local conditions may permit, any attempt publishers may make to print books of permanent value on better paper and in a form better suited to the library use of such books."

The Committee on committees recommends the appointment of two committees—a committee on subscription books and a standing committee on library work with children.

The report of the Editorial committee commends the *Reading with a Purpose* series, and 17 subjects for the courses were approved. "Some aspects of library management," by John A. Lowe, and "The circulation of books in public libraries," by Jennie M. Flexner, will be printed and ready for use in the fall of 1927.

To meet a deficit, the committee decided to open the columns of the *Booklist* to advertising. The *Booklist* will be increased in size, will have a two column page and a colored cover. Only books which have appeared in the A. L. A. catalog or in the *Booklist* will be advertised.

The copyright of the Winnetka Graded book list has been turned over to the author.

A manuscript, Sources of western culture, in use for several years in the Columbia General Honors course, has been offered and accepted for publication. It is a bibliography of 76 authors compiled by Philip N. Youtz of the Columbia faculty.

The report of the Library Legislation committee announces the county library law of Louisiana, the state library commission law of Mississippi and the amendments to the public library law of the District of Columbia. The latter pro-

vides for separate branch buildings, for supplemental branch libraries in public school buildings, for renting quarters in certain cases for use as branches and distributing stations, for extending library privileges to persons living in adjacent states, for annual estimates of appropriations needed for sites and buildings, and for turning in all library receipts for fines and penalties to the United States Treasury to the credit of the District.

Kentucky increases the salary of the state librarian from \$1800 to \$2400 a year, of the assistant from \$125 to \$184 a month.

The work of the Survey committee having been completed, the office of the Survey in St. Louis will be closed and the staff will be dispersed, June 1.

Retiring annuities

Appended to the annual report of the Salaries committee is a very comprehensive report on retiring annuities for librarians, prepared by Harold F. Brigham, Committee member in charge of annuities. The report deals primarily with the various ways libraries may establish retirement plans, from the viewpoint of the library administrator, in four sections as follows:

1. Section one treats the problem of establishing and administering a retirement plan. Two ways of setting up a plan are noted, one of which is immediately open to any library, namely, 1) by having the library included in a retirement system already established whether governmental or private; or 2) by having the library establish a plan of its own, whether administered by the library itself or by a commercial insurance company.

An enumeration is made of the types of libraries which have or are generally eligible to retirement plans already established, both governmental and private. It is pointed out that governmental systems are frequently unsatisfactory because of the influence of politics. Of privately administered plans, those offered to college and university libraries by the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association are given special emphasis. Retirement contracts offered by this as-

sociation, which is operated under Carnegie auspices, have so far seldom been extended to entire college library staffs, but the urgent need of this is emphasized on the strength of the professional rating which college library staffs may justly claim today. Incidentally, an important point is made of the fact that a member of a college library staff is by virtue of his position personally eligible to purchase both the retirement and life insurance contracts offered by the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association at a considerable saving over similar commercial contracts. In the case of annuities, this would require payment of the full premium of 10 per cent of salary, half of which should normally be paid by the college.

The possibility of libraries establishing retirement plans independently is treated with special emphasis on the desirability of establishing such contracts thru the medium of commercial (old-line) insurance companies. It is urged that even the largest institutions are not warranted in attempting to administer themselves a retirement plan, but that an established insurance company is eminently better qualified to do this because by its organization it can handle the money much more efficiently and safely.

II. Section two is called A practical experiment in formulating a retirement plan for a library staff. The staff in question is the Headquarters personnel of the A. L. A. The full procedure is outlined by which a retirement plan for this staff was worked out by a commercial insurance company working in coöperation with the Salaries committee of the association and a special committee of the staff.

The procedure outlined carries the experiment up to the preparation of a statement outlining the plan evolved, and on the basis of this obtaining a vote of the entire staff indicating their interest in the tentative proposal. This procedure proved so successful that it is suggested as applicable to any library which might be interested in the retirement question.

The experiment also proved that commercial retirement plans are well adapted

to the library situation, that the cost of a plan in which contributions are paid by both the employer and employee is not prohibitive, and that a retirement plan if effectively adapted to a particular library staff can be expected to minimize many personnel difficulties.

III. Section three deals with the legal question involved in public libraries establishing retirement plans by contract with commercial insurance companies. The question is whether public funds may be diverted to this use. The whole problem is summarized thru the medium of questionnaire returns received from 32 states and three Canadian provinces.

The results of this survey are given as indicating: 1) that the majority of librarians who enjoy retirement privileges today do so as a result of inclusion in established governmental systems. 2) That there is a definite tendency in the various states to establish enabling legislation authorizing retirement provisions for librarians of public libraries specifically, and that there is likewise an active and growing interest on the part of libraries of all types in the retirement question. 3) That there is no consensus as to whether interpretation of existing general law would permit or prevent a public library from entering into contract with a commercial insurance company, but that prevention might be expected and therefore permissive legislation is vitally important. 4) In conclusion, that now is the time for public libraries to work closely together in order to establish the retirement problem on a firm legal basis.

Sections IV and V summarize the work of the Salaries committee on annuities and its recommendations to be presented to the Council of the American Library Association at Toronto.

It is explained that the Committee has worked by three methods essentially, that is, by keeping continually abreast of the literature and new developments in the subject, by experiment, and by exchange of information with libraries in the field. This work, extending over more than three years, has resulted in the accumulation of a large amount of valuable in-

formation, including a mass of significant correspondence with libraries and insurance companies, details of numerous retirement plans, many of which have been carefully analyzed; tabulations and prepared statements of different kinds; and much printed material dealing with both theory and practice.

The Committee feels that its investigations and the information accumulated should be made widely available to the profession, and therefore proposes as recommendations to the Council that an effort be made to establish the Committee as a recognized clearing house for information on this subject; that the accumulation and dissemination of information be continued and expanded; and that in particular the Committee be authorized "to prepare an official statistical record, similar to its Salary Statistics, showing the status of the library retirement question in the various states and Canada. It is recommended that such a statistical record treat college and university libraries separately from libraries of public institutions, and that it appear in the *Bulletin* of the American Library Association annually or irregularly as the Committee may determine."

Schemes of library service

The committee on Library service was appointed to draw up a scheme that should be flexible, and at the same time uniform, by which the staffs of libraries of different sizes could be classified into grades of positions based on the difficulty of the work and degree of responsibility attached thereto; a scheme by which positions in the smallest libraries could be translated into the same terms as those used in the larger so that assistants from the smaller could easily be allocated in the larger libraries.

In order to do this the committee found it necessary to make a classification of public libraries on the basis of population, number of volumes, circulation, budget, staff, and certain other elements, and to group the various types of positions in libraries into grades. The duties and qualifications for the different types of positions will

be found in the Telford report and have not been reprinted for reasons of space.

With these classes of public libraries (14 in all) and seven grades of positions determined, the committee constructed a chart which shows for each class of library the minimum number of positions of each grade needed to carry on the work. Thus a Class 3 library, which has only one person on its staff, needs a grade 2 person as a librarian. That person on going to a Class 7 library would fit into its scheme as one of the three grade 2 assistants there needed. A Class 5 library needs a grade 3 person as librarian, she going into a Class 8 library could qualify for one of the two grade 3 positions in that library.

By means of this chart, a library can determine approximately the minimum number of assistants of each grade it needs in order to carry on the work of a library of its class and can thereby determine whether it comes up to standard.

The report of the committee which studies the development of reading habits is well worth special consideration and is something which every librarian and educator should study at his leisure and in relation to the special work he is trying to do. Because of the wide separation by distance of the members of the committee, each member brought together in his own community a group of interested people to consider the aspects of reading habits and to invite suggestions and criticisms. Naturally a variety of opinions has been expressed which impresses the committee with the importance of its work. No detailed plan for a thoro study and comprehensive report is offered, but a recommendation is made that a preliminary study be conducted under a competent research director at a cost of perhaps \$10,700 a year. The proposed study should be made largely from this librarian's point of view and for the improvement of library service, but at the same time it should have practical value for those in charge of formal instruction for all grades. The relation

of the schools and the public libraries should be studied. Pre-school influence, or environment, with many phases of influences of the kind, appearance and character of printed matter, should be known. The committee recommends that a trained and experienced psychologist, with other proper qualifications, be employed as director of such a study.

In the War Service activities, the Executive Board authorized an expenditure of not to exceed \$5000 for War Service funds to be used by the American Library in Paris and A. L. A. Headquarters for the provision of services: preparation of a list of books about Paris with notes about the American Library in Paris and the A. L. A. for distribution; for extra services in the Paris library incident to the American Legion visit; for American magazines and newspapers and other incidental expenses in connection with reading rooms and information bureaus maintained in Paris; for the reproduction of the War Service bookplate in postcard form for distribution to the delegates in Paris.

Book Production committee of the Children's Librarians section

This Committee has tried to accomplish three things; to bring back into print books for children that publishers had allowed to go out of print; to make the first list of books in embossed braille for boys and girls, and to have it embossed and distributed; to establish a definite channel thru which foreign children's books could be made accessible to libraries in small towns which do not carry them in stock.

Of 76 books universally in demand, 76 were reported out of print. Of these, 51, representing 19 publishers, were selected, and a reprint requested; 11 books representing eight publishers were selected for new editions, and the publishers requested to supply these. Eighteen were assured new editions immediately, seven were already in print having been taken over by other publishers, and all but one of the eight new editions requested have been assured.

The List of Books in Braille for boys and girls was made by the Committee

with the help of Miss Goldthwaite of the New York public library. In April, the A. L. A. financed the braillying of 500 copies and the typing of 75 copies. A typed and an embossed list was sent to all libraries in the United States having departments for blind readers, and The Canadian Institute for the Blind. The 500 embossed copies are being distributed by the Committee to schools and institutions for the blind.

For foreign books a member of this Committee has been appointed in certain foreign countries to keep the Section informed about books for children which would appeal to either foreign or American readers here, and to establish a dealer who would agree to import these books and to send them anywhere in this country. This arrangement has been made with France, Italy, Czecho-Slovakia and the Scandinavian countries.

Report on Hospital libraries

The chairman of the Committee on hospital libraries, Miss Perrie Jones, submitted the idea that some of the war funds be used to pay the salary and expenses of a field secretary to make a survey of hospital library service in hospitals outside of government control, to formulate plans to extend the service where it exists, and to introduce it where no library service is now being rendered. Miss Jones also proposed the establishment of a model hospital library in some hospital to carry on demonstration work for two years. The Executive Board expressed an interest in the hospital library project but stated no action was possible at present because of lack of information and lack of time for careful consideration.

The Committee for the work with the blind reported 500 lists of children's books distributed to the older sightless school children, thruout the United States. Extra copies can be bought for 10 cents. A complete catalog of all press-brailled books in grade 1½ is finished. The American Printing House for the Blind has asked that a special committee be appointed to assist it in the choice of books. Annie

Carson of the Cleveland public library will be chairman of that committee.

The Government has voted an increase of \$25,000 to the yearly fund it supplies the American Printing House for the Blind. On account of the failure of the appropriation bill, it will not be available this year, but this makes the annual government subsidy to the American Printing House \$75,000 for children's books alone.

Three new magazines have been started during the year—the *Braille Mirror* from the Universal Braille Press, *The Church Herald for the Blind* and the *Lutheran Messenger*, the latter printed by the American Printing House but financed by churches. Edna Ferber's *Show Boat*, thru the Lions club of Detroit, will be ready very soon for distribution.

The library schools have been measured by the minimum standards of the A. L. A. Board of Education for Librarianship, during 1926-27, and the following accredited list has been determined:

Graduate library schools

Advanced Graduate library schools

None.

Graduate library schools

Library school, Carnegie library of Atlanta.
School of librarianship, University of California.

Columbia University school of library service.

Drexel Institute school of library science.

University of Illinois library school.

Simmons College school of library science.

One year program for college graduates.

School of library science, Western Reserve University.

Program for college graduates.

Undergraduate library schools

Senior Undergraduate library schools

Simmons College school of library science.

Four year program.

University of Washington library school.

Junior Undergraduate library schools

Library school of the Los Angeles public library.

Carnegie library school, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh.

Pratt Institute school of library science.

St. Louis library school, St. Louis public library.

School of library science, Western Reserve University.

Program for undergraduates.

Library school of the University of Wisconsin.

Provisionally accredited library schools 1926-27

Hampton Institute library school.

University of Michigan department of library science.

Membership

The announcement of the proposed publication of a list of school librarians, in connection with the Education committee's book on school library work, brought in to A. L. A. Headquarters a flood of interesting correspondence from all over the United States and Canada, as well as 430 new memberships.

There are now 10,151 members in the A. L. A. On December 31, 1926, there were 8,848 members. New York leads in membership, having a total of 1424, Illinois is next, with a total of 768, Massachusetts, third with 728; Pennsylvania fourth with 633 and California fifth with 567. In the list of new memberships since January, Illinois has first place, with 150 new members. New York, second with 127 members; California third with 84; Michigan fourth with 83 new members and Ohio fifth with 74.

The following committees presented no reports: Affiliating chapters, A. L. A. Headquarters building, Classification, Code of ethics, Constitution and by-laws, Coöperation with the Hispanic peoples, Library radio broadcasting, Political appointments, Ways and means, and Work with the foreign-born.

A Valuable Acquisition to L. C.

A reproduction of the first known map showing the world as it appeared in the beginning of the sixteenth century has been acquired by the Library of Congress among a collection recently received. The map was designed by Giovanni Matteo Contarini and engraved by Francesco Roselli in 1506. The original is in the British Museum.

The American Association for Adult Education
Annual meeting

While the annual meeting of the American association for adult education, which was held in Cleveland, May 16-18, was not widely advertised either before or after the conference, it attracted nation-wide interest among thinking people and brought together approximately 200 representatives of widest possible range of activities. In fact, the representatives came from such varied walks in life that they really had in common only one thing and that was what librarians have been referring to as "the diffusion of knowledge" but what the world is coming to call "adult education."

In listening to the addresses and discussion, one was reminded of two schools of critics: one harping that the term "adult education" is stretched so far that it is meaningless, and the other complaining that "adult education" is in danger of becoming standardized and consequently likely to succumb to the dire disasters which have overtaken much of the work of the public school system.

It was difficult to find anything in the meeting which would justify either complaint. The inclusiveness of the representation was, after all, an index to the cultural elements in American life. And as for the danger of conformation to a model, it is well to observe that while the program conformed to an admirable plan, no mind or type of mind predominated, and the president, Dean Russell of Teachers College, Columbia, even refused to make a speech!

The central theme of the meeting was Community organization for adult education. Considerable time was devoted to reports of the Buffalo and Cleveland community studies which, inaugurated about two years ago, are nearing completion. Under the direction of central councils and research directors, self studies have been made in these cities by as many as 20 different types of institutions. The aim

has been to discover present facilities and demands for continuing education, gaps in provisions, and means and methods of coördinating the activities of institutions and of providing for an extension of service. Public libraries have had an important part in the studies and are linked as never before with the outstanding municipal institutions and influences. If the full import of these undertakings may be judged by the reports made at Cleveland they are likely to be epoch-making in community planning and cultural advancement.

At following sessions, addresses were given and discussion engaged in on such subjects as: Adult education from the standpoint of good citizenship, by Newton D. Baker; Adult education in science, by Edwin E. Slosson; Rural community organization, by Kenyon L. Butterfield; The relation of urban universities and adult education, by Walter Dill Scott; and The menace of leisure, by President Cutten of Colgate University. Everett Dean Martin piloted a session in which "Labor's belief in adult education" was presented by Matthew Woll, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, in a way that showed a faith that will remove mountains of indifference, and the attitude of business was set forth by Sam A. Lewisohn of the American Management association. Miss Linda A. Eastman ably conducted the final session which featured Dr Henry Suzzallo's address, Reading as a factor in self-education.

Possibly the greatest interest in any one presentation centered on Dr E. L. Thorndike's report of studies now being made of the ability of adults to learn. Dr Thorndike's conclusions are more optimistic than those of a great psychologist who is quoted frequently, and he closed with the statement that "the wise man will reserve much of his learning until adult years." A full report of this study, as well as of the other papers presented, will appear this summer in the proceedings of the American association for adult education, and is well worth watching for

While a bit of oratory crept in now and then in spite of the obvious precautions taken by the program committee, the meeting was characterized by a directness in approaching points at issue, a searching and critical attitude on the part of speakers, and an absence of sentimentality and buncombe. It is too early to prophesy concerning the future of the movement that this meeting represented, but the 30 or more librarians present had every reason to be hopeful of the outlook in a field which so vitally involves their profession.

Library Meetings

Boston—The annual meeting of Special Libraries association of Boston was held on May 23, at the Massachusetts state library. Committee reports were especially encouraging. The membership committee reported 28 new members; the education committee reported the most successful lecture course in library science in the history of the association, the enrollment numbering 21. The registration committee reported 11 positions filled, with a list of 32 librarians now available for almost any type of library work.

The following officers were elected: President, Howard L. Stebbins, librarian, Social Law library; vice-president, Miss Abbie G. Glover, assistant-librarian, Insurance library association of Boston; secretary, Miss Gladys L. Saville, librarian, *Christian Science Monitor*; treasurer, Rev Frederick T. Persons, librarian, Congregational library.

California—A conference of college and university librarians was held in Los Angeles, April 23, under the direction of Charlotte Brown, librarian of the University of Southern California.

Arthur M. Ellis, president of the Historical society of Southern California, spoke of the colorful and significant early history of California and the desirability of gathering important material and data in regard to the same. He named as fascinating fields

for investigation, the early intimate histories of the libraries, the drifting back to the Spanish regime after the early American occupation, and the analogy between the early events in California history and the basic principles of development in the national government.

Nathaniel Goodwin, librarian of the University of California, presided at the afternoon meeting. The speaker was Dr Malcolm W. Graham, professor of political science, who spoke on Some aspects of international organization. Dr Graham was a member of a professional commission which, last year in Europe, made a clinical study of international and constitutional law. The lack of restriction in their study enabled them to observe independently the trend of international affairs under the various governments.

Dr Graham emphasized the part which libraries play in national and international affairs. He pointed out the value of collecting material, the inestimable value of the whole mass of facts and especially the modern library methods which are changing the medieval library idea of mere collections to that of availability. He spoke of the value of this at The Hague, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the Permanent Court of International Justice, and at many minor courts of which nothing is heard. In all of these, facts and records hold an important place. Geneva was full of interest since over 200 organizations having their headquarters there, find the use of records a great necessity. Dr Graham stressed the fine work of Miss Florence Wilson, librarian of the League of Nations library.

Mr Goodwin told of the prospective library building for the University of Southern California, soon to be erected, the preliminary plans being very interesting.

Michigan—The fourteenth annual meeting of the Upper Peninsula library association was held at the Peter White public library in Marquette, Michigan, on May 31-June 1, 1927. Libraries from all over the Upper Peninsula, were rep-

resented. Margaret Smith, librarian of the Peter White library, acted as hostess. Mrs Nancy B. Thomas, librarian of the Carnegie library at Escanaba, was the chairman of the program.

There were several very fine talks given by the librarians and by those generally interested in library work and libraries. Alice B. Clapp, librarian of the Carnegie library, Sault Ste. Marie, talked on Librarians' tools and helps. Sezerine Wellet, librarian of the Negaunee public library, talked on Book-buying, Mrs Mary E. Frankhauser, state librarian, delivered a very fine address to the librarians. She dealt with county libraries, but her message carried a great deal of encouragement to the librarians. Professor J. C. Bowman, author, and instructor in the Northern state normal, also delivered a fine address to the librarians. Dean John W. Willard, of the Department for Continuing education in Michigan, gave a very good, inspirational talk on county libraries. Mr Willard is particularly anxious to have more county libraries established in the counties of Michigan, and, he pointed out in his talk, this condition can be brought about by the aid of the city libraries and library boards.

The business part of the meeting was not so long that there wasn't time for a little entertainment and sociability. The Woman's club, of Marquette, opened its clubhouse to the librarians, and were hostesses at a reception for them. Mrs P. B. Spear, a member of the Board of library trustees of the Peter White public library, was the gracious hostess at an informal tea, given at her home in honor of the librarians.

The entire meeting was much worthwhile. The librarians decided to hold round-table meetings next year, and a general meeting of the association the following year. The usual officers were elected for a period of two years:

Sezerine Wellet, Negaunee, librarian, president; Elsie Medlyn, Ironwood, librarian, vice-president; Margaret Smith, Marquette, librarian, secretary-treasurer.

ELSIE M. MEDLYN

New Hampshire—The thirty-eighth annual meeting of the New Hampshire library association was held at New London, June 1-3, presided over by the president, Winifred Tuttle, of the City library, Manchester.

The meeting opened with an address of welcome by Mrs Mary B. Macomber, trustee of the local library, and after music by students of Colby academy, an address "Is censorship a necessity or an irritant?" by Dorothy Foster Gilman, assistant editor of the book page of the *Boston Transcript*, charmed the audience. Miss Gilman believes firmly in some kind of censorship, and that, altho the Boston variety is administered in a stupid blundering way, it is, nevertheless, an attempt to bring back decency and order to the book world, and any interest in these things is a hopeful sign. She explained the Massachusetts law which is now interpreted to mean that if a bookseller sells a book of which even a single sentence can be judged salacious, the bookseller is liable to a jail sentence. She said that librarians held a strategic position for censorship and could suppress books without publicity if they would return undesirable volumes to the publishers, with a letter stating why they considered the books objectionable. Such a procedure, Miss Gilman asserts, would touch the publishers' pocketbooks and, therefore, affect their policies.

At a business meeting, the executive board was empowered to establish two grades of dues for active membership, 50 cents for the very small libraries, and one dollar for the larger. It was voted to continue the scholarship plan under direction of the first vice-president. A resolution was passed that the New Hampshire library association recommend to the Council of the A. L. A. that at least every third year the Midwinter meeting of that association be held in either New York or Washington.

In the talks on new books, Mary E. Russell, of the Manchester public library, reviewed 22 selected children's

books and distributed a list of them; Theodora A. Clark, of the State library, spoke on recent biography; and new reference books were discussed by Mary L. Saxton, of Keene public library. W. P. Lewis, librarian of the University of New Hampshire, gave a five-minute talk on the A. L. A., its aim, publications and the advantages of membership.

On the afternoon program were three New Hampshire authors. Eleanor Hallowell Abbott gave a half hour of autobiography, particularly her childhood. Such celebrities as Lowell, Longfellow, Holmes, Higginson, and Howells, were almost daily figures in her early life. She and Ole Bull's small daughter were once partners in a fair at which the great violinist played, sang and danced, and where little Eleanor Abbott, who did not forget that a fair should be a financial success, was punished for selling her kisses. She was 18 when her first story was accepted for publication. Editors complained that her style was eccentric, her father objected that her stories showed no definite ethical purpose, the revered *Atlantic* objected to a surely respectable word, but the author's loyalty to her writings made her continue to express her own joy and interest in the world in her own way.

Sewell Ford read the title story from his *Truegate of Mogador*; and Kenneth A. Robinson, of Dartmouth college, read "Opera house tonight," a short story of small town life.

An automobile ride occupied the rest of the afternoon. An evening banquet was held, after which Miss Margaret Sheehan described an eventful 23-day airplane trip from Boston to Los Angeles. The association scholarships were presented by Mildred Vroom, librarian of Phillips Exeter academy. In libraries serving two to five thousand the award went to Grace E. Kingsland, librarian of the Howe library, Hanover, with honorable mention to Louise E. Marden, of Goffstown; in libraries serving under one thousand, Mrs Marjorie Emery, of Boscawen, received the scholarship,

with honorable mention to Mrs J. Ella Morrill, of South Hampton.

Mr A. L. T. Cummings, of the Maine state chamber of commerce, spoke on "Kate Douglas Wiggin as a summer neighbor." This was an intimate picture of Mrs Wiggin and her family by the original Justin Peabody, of her play *The Old Peabody pew*.

The subject of the Friday morning meeting was library publicity. The main talk was by Mrs Fay C. Ganter, a member of the New Hampshire library commission, and formerly librarian at Berlin, N. H. Mrs Ganter urged that the library be made a social center where all should be exceedingly welcome. She outlined methods of advertising and coöperation with local organizations. She was followed by Katie G. Danforth, of the Littleton public library, and Mrs Marjorie Emery, of Boscawen, who described in detail their publicity work during the past year. This included children's book week parades, Grange fair exhibits, and other more usual methods.

The officers for the coming year are: President, Winifred Tuttle, of Manchester City library; first vice-president, Helen Grant Cushing, University of New Hampshire library, Durham; second vice-president, Mildred Peaslee, New London; secretary, Agnes Norton, Howe library, Hanover; treasurer, Helen C. Clarke, Concord public library.

HELEN GRANT CUSHING
Secretary

Pittsburgh—A library club has recently been organized in Pittsburgh to encourage social and professional intercourse among librarians and those interested in library work. There were over 100 present at its inauguration and such enthusiasm was shown that the future of the organization promises well.

The following officers of the library club were elected: President, J. Howard Dice, librarian, University of Pittsburgh; vice-president, Miss Caroline Lauman, librarian, Sewickley public library; secretary, Miss Alice T. Mc-

Girr, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh; treasurer, Miss Phebe G. Pomeroy, Peabody high school; members of the Executive committee, Charles E. Wright, librarian, Duquesne public library; Miss Waller I. Bullock, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, and Miss Jessie Callan, librarian, Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad, Traffic department.

The A. L. A. Library Institute St. Louis

The library institute held under the auspices of the American Library Association, financed by the Carnegie Corporation, and conducted by the St. Louis library school, closed on June 9, with a total attendance at the nine sessions of over 600.

Fifty-four out-of-town librarians, assistants, commission-workers and trustees registered for one or more days. Thirty-three students of the Library school attended seven of the sessions and members of the St. Louis public library staff came and went whenever they could be spared from their regular duties. Three state library commissions were represented.

Librarians in attendance were from public, college and school libraries, including many children's librarians, with a preponderance of librarians of public libraries and their assistants. There were representatives from Nebraska, Iowa, Indiana, Arkansas and Illinois. There were 18 Missouri libraries represented.

Outstanding speakers were: Dr W. W. Charters, Luther Dickerson, and Miss Julia W. Merrill from A. L. A. headquarters; Miss Effie L. Power of Cleveland; Miss Martha Wilson of Springfield, Illinois; Dr John McGeoch of Washington University, St. Louis, and Miss Mary Powell, Educational director of the St. Louis Art Museum. Dr Bostwick welcomed the visitors and delivered two of the lectures. Several delightful social occasions were enjoyed.

Visits were made to the libraries, of Washington University, the Missouri Historical society, and to the St.

Louis public library and branches. One afternoon was devoted to a study of a mending-exhibit on display at the Central library.

Other attractions were "Robin Hood" at the Municipal Theater and "As you like it" at the Garden Theater.

MRS HARRIET P. SAWYER,
Director.

Atlanta

A library institute will be held under the auspices of the A. L. A. and the Carnegie library of Atlanta, at Emory University, July 25-August 6, 1927. The institute is open without tuition to all who choose to attend. Low rates of travel and board will prevail.

The work will be directed by Dr L. R. Wilson, University of North Carolina, and by Miss Barker of Carnegie library school, Atlanta, aided by a distinguished staff of lecturers among whom are Dr W. F. Russell, Dr A. E. Bostwick, Dean C. A. Hibbard and others. For further information address Miss Tommie Dora Barker, Carnegie library, Atlanta, Georgia.

Coming meetings

The North Dakota library association will meet at Dickinson, September 15-17.

The Iowa library association will hold its annual meeting at Des Moines, October 18-20.

The annual meeting of the Illinois library association will be held at Joliet in October. The date is not yet fixed.

The Wisconsin library association will hold its annual meeting at Green Bay, October 10-12, Leila A. Janes, Fond du Lac, president, and Clara L. Lindsley, Waupun, secretary.

The 1927 meeting of the Indiana library association will be held October 26-28, at West Baden Springs hotel. Rates on American plan.

The Michigan state library association will hold its annual meeting at Jackson, October 13-15.

The Nebraska library association will hold its annual meeting at Lincoln, October 13-14. There will be a library institute conducted by the State library commission preceding the meeting, October 11-12.

Interesting Things in Print

An index arranged by subject to "Stories and poems suitable for opening exercises" has been issued by the A. L. A. It was prepared by Elizabeth Ohr, head of the school library division of the Indianapolis public library.

A pamphlet of 40 p. on statistics of Illinois libraries for 1926 has been issued by the Extension division of the state library. The statistics relate to receipts, expenditures, circulation and location of all kinds of libraries.

Attention is called to the fact that the list of 200 books prepared by Miss Harriet C. Long of Wisconsin library commission, was not entitled "200 best books by American authors," but, "200 best books for an American home, by American authors"—two very different things.

A bibliography of Special collections in the library of the Pacific Northwest has been compiled by Charles W. Smith, chairman of the Committee on bibliography of the P. N. L. A. This has been issued in pamphlet form arranged by subjects and has a good index.

The Public libraries of Cardiff, Wales, have issued a "Catalog of manuscripts, books, engravings, references, etc.," relating to St. David, St. David's day, St. David in romance, and the Cathedral church of St. David in Pembrokeshire. Much of the material covered dates back to the eleventh century.

An article by Sarah B. Askew, who is chairman of the Committee on children's reading for the National Congress of parents and teachers, has been issued by the National Office in a small pamphlet. In addition to the outline of the subject is given a list of useful printed lists of books for children.

C. P. Baber, Illinois '27, has been appointed librarian of Kellogg library at the Kansas Teachers College, Emporia. Mr Baber was seven years assistant-librarian at the University of Oklahoma.

A leaflet recently received is a "List of diaries to be found in the New York Society library." A picture of Thomas Bray, an English philanthropist (1656-1730), carries the legend, "This Colonial Carnegie established 39 libraries in North America before 1730." Investigation of the matter presents the information that he instituted and extended a system of parochial lending libraries to be established in each deanery, and in 1723 founded, for the continuance of his work, the society known as the "Associates of Dr Bray," which still exists and publishes annual reports.

Vol. 3 of a Survey of libraries in the United States was issued by A. L. A. June 1. This is the most interesting of the series thus far. It deals with actual practices and is satisfactorily free from statistics. The five chapters cover 326 pages in discussing and stating findings—The work of the children's department, Branches and extension work, Work with special classes and School libraries.

The editors have succeeded admirably in omitting their own opinions in the discussions as to the merits of the things surveyed, speaking for themselves only when explaining what they have presented and why. Certainly no one can even cursorily examine this book (as has been done in this instance) and not gain much information of how many things are done in hundreds of libraries.

In 1915, the British Library Association began to publish annually the "Subject index to periodicals." This proved a most valuable and helpful reference tool as it indexes 600 important periodicals—English, American and foreign. For unavoidable reasons, the work became in arrears after 1922. A strong effort is being made to bring the work up to date. The 1926 volume will be published during the summer and the volume of 1923-25, as soon after as possible. A copy of the prospectus and specimen page, together with price, may be obtained from the Honorable Secretary, Frank Pacy, li-

brarian, Westminster public libraries, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

Many of the Vatican archives covering many centuries have been shut to historians because of the inaccessibility of their contents. The work of making an analytical inventory with cross references has been undertaken by Monseigneur Angelo Mercati. Vatican work for the time being is confined to four sections—Vatican registers, registers of Lateran archives of the period when Popes occupied the Lateran instead of the Vatican palace, records of the Papal court and a record of consistories. A part of the index will soon be available and it is predicted that the research work that will follow, will result in the rewriting of much medieval history.

"What and Why in China" is a book that everyone has been waiting and wishing for these many months. Simple, concise, explanatory, it makes plain for even the uninitiated, the cause and conditions of the revolutions in China. Fair, constructive, it leads one to be patient and sympathetic with those who are honestly trying to bring order out of chaos. Paul Hutchinson, the author, lived five years in China doing editorial work; he knows conditions and gives in this book a clean picture of them. The chapter "In a Nut Shell" is far ahead of most writing that others have done on the subject. Willett, Clark & Colby, Chicago, offer this as their first publication—a good start.

The Library of Congress has issued a beautiful bit of printing bearing the title "The Library of Congress" with the sub-title "Some notable items that it has: Some examples of many others that it needs." A list of desiderata given occupies nearly one-half the volume of 116 pages, the first half of the book being devoted to a list of its possessions, gifts, bequests, deposits, transfers. A facsimile of the Declaration of Independence is given on pages 103-111, followed by a page of the Columbus codex.

Library Schools

Carnegie library of Atlanta

The Graduates Association held its meeting June 3 at the Library school, when the present class was admitted into the membership of the association. The following officers were elected: Kathleen Hines '14, president; Marianne Martin '23, vice-president; Vera S. Cooper '14, secretary and treasurer.

The second semester stressed practical work with some variation in the case of students who plan to specialize in college and cataloging work. Subjects fitting in with some phase of their future work were assigned for investigation and after preliminary reading, questionnaires were prepared and sent to certain colleges, the selection made according to type (state, private, etc.), size, and location to ascertain whether any of these factors influence the methods used.

In the Administration course, original investigations were also made resulting in contributions to such subjects as: History of Library organization in the Southeastern states, Present status of library legislation in the Southeastern states, etc.

Book Selection was supplemented by lectures on the bibliography of particular subjects by specialists in their respective fields.

Dr W. W. Charters visited the School, and in a brief talk told the class something about the work of preparing text books on library subjects.

The School has been selected for the use of the Thomas M. Owen Scholarship which is open to Alabama students.

WINIFRED L. DAVIS,
Principal.

Drexel Institute

The students of Drexel library school finished their final examinations on June 3. Prizes were awarded for first and second honor to Frances Wright and Isabel Bronk respectively. The Library School Alumnae association presented prizes to Isabelle Bronk, Eleanor Shane and A Theodosia Cushing for work of distinction.

The students enjoyed two lectures on Publishing and publishers by Miss Margaret Jackson. The work of the New Jersey library commission was presented by Miss Sarah Askew in her inimitable manner. The curriculum of the third term is largely devoted to work with administration and selection of books for the children's room and high school libraries, and the class had the privilege of listening to Edith C. Moon on the Relation of the Children's department to the public school.

The class made inspection visits to a model printing establishment in Camden on May 4 and to the Wilmington Institute free library where they were welcomed by Mr Bailey, shown thru the library, and entertained at tea by the staff.

The students visited the beautiful new building of the Philadelphia free library with its rare collections and special exhibits. Special attention was given to the rare manuscripts and Persian miniatures lent to the library by John Frederick Lewis. The class also visited the impressive collection of Hampton L. Carson on the history of Anglo-Saxon law.

The class luncheon was held on May 11, Miss Hannah Severns, the class president, acting as toastmistress. The class had its final meeting at a picnic at Valley Forge on June 9. Graduation was on Monday, June 13.

Final action by the State Council of Education empowers the trustees of Drexel Institute to grant the degree of bachelor of science in Library Science to the classes of 1926 and 1927, and to future classes.

ANNE W. HOWLAND
Director

University of Illinois

The University of Illinois library school has closed an interesting and successful year. This year registered 57 juniors and 17 seniors; among the seniors are included those students who preferred to take the degree B. L. S. at the close of this year rather than the master's degree, and also the members of the second year class who

are receiving the M. A. or M. S., majoring in Library Science, this commencement, altho these are enrolled in the graduate school and are not included in the Library school statistics, but practically all of their work has been done, as in former years, in the Library school. In the advanced class, one member, Hilda J. Alseth, completed the required amount of work satisfactorily and received her B. L. S. degree in February. With that exception the *personnel* of the second year class has remained unchanged thruout the year.

For the first time, this year the degree of bachelor of science in Library Science has been recommended by the Library School faculty for the members of the first year class who completed satisfactorily all of the required courses and enough electives to aggregate 30 credits. There were 34 students recommended for the degree of bachelor of science in Library Science, receiving that degree on June 15. Three students were recommended for the B. L. S. degree.

Five students were graduated with the master's degree, majoring in Library Science.

The faculty next year will remain nearly unchanged with the exception of the resignation of Miss Avis M. Pillsbury, whose position of instructor and general assistant has not yet been filled, and the resignation of Miss Frances Ida Ambuhl, as junior reviser, whose place will be taken next year by Hazel Rea.

Los Angeles public library

May with its term papers and final examinations was brightened by the visits of four distinguished speakers: Miss Ada Alice Jones, Miss Julia W. Merrill, Mr Joy E. Morgan and Mr Henry L. Bullen. Miss Merrill inspired the class with her account of the A. L. A. extension work in Arizona and New Mexico. Mr Morgan spoke on the relations of schools and libraries, while Mr Bullen discussed European printing, allowing the students to handle and examine some of the beautiful volumes exhibited by the

Typographic library and museum of the American Typefounders Company.

Dean C. H. Rieber of the University of California in Los Angeles gave the address at the closing exercises, May 26, choosing *Ex Libris* as his subject. This was followed by the alumni luncheon in honor of the class of 1927. Miss Mary L. Jones, the luncheon speaker, spoke on *Compensations*, citing her own library experience which included contact with Willa Cather, Elsie Singmaster and other celebrities.

The officers elected by the Alumni association to serve in 1927-28 are: Faith H. Hyers, '24, president; Roberta Bowler, '21, vice-president; Olive Sprong, '24, secretary-treasurer.

Five hundred girls from southern California high schools, interested in library work, met at a vocational conference at the Compton high school, May 14. Miss Mooney, representing the school, spoke on *Librarianship as a profession to grow in*. These students are planning their college courses with library work in mind.

MARION HORTON
Principal

Carnegie library, Pittsburgh

The commencement exercises, marking the close of the twenty-sixth year of the School, were held on June 16. Director John H. Leete presided and the address was given by Dr Malcolm McLeod, head of the Department of English of the Carnegie Institute of Technology. Miss Brotherton presented diplomas to 50 students, the largest graduating class since the founding of the School. Twenty-six were graduated from the course in Library work with children, five from the course in Library work with schools, and 19 from the course in General library work. Following the commencement exercises, a luncheon for the graduating class was given at the University club by the Pittsburgh chapter of the Carnegie Library School association. On Wednesday evening, June 15, a reception was held at the College club for the class of 1927 and their parents and friends.

Miss Frances H. Kelly, who succeeds Miss Nina C. Brotherton as principal of the School, assumes her new duties on July 1.

DOROTHY G. HOSFORD,
Secretary.

Pratt Institute

The last visiting lecturers of the year were Miss Mabel Williams, supervisor of work with schools in the New York public library, who told of the organization of the school department and the special work it is doing, and Miss Julia A. Hopkins, supervisor of staff instruction in the Brooklyn public library, who gave two talks on training classes, examinations, and staff efficiency reports.

Visits have been made during the last six weeks to Columbia University library, the Newark public library and Museum, the H. W. Wilson Company, the Baker and Taylor Company, the libraries of the American Geographical Society and the Hispanic and Numismatic societies, and to the publishing house of Doubleday, Page and Co.

The Commencement exercises were held on June 23 at the Academy of Music in Brooklyn. Ten of the 26 graduates left before commencement in order to attend the meeting of the conference in Toronto, this making the second A. L. A. that several members of the class of 1927 have attended during their school year.

The vice-director deserted both our own commencement and the conference and sailed to Norway on June 18, with Miss Titcomb of Hagerstown.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-director.

The St. Louis public library

On June 9, the St. Louis library school closed the most successful year in its history, graduating 28 students from the General course and five from the course in Library work with children, including one post graduate student.

Final examinations were held a week earlier than usual to enable the class to attend the Library institute, reported elsewhere in this periodical.

The commencement addresses were given by Professor Frank J. Bruno, professor of Applied sociology, Washington University, St. Louis and Dr W. W. Charters, dean of the School of education, University of Chicago, and director, Library Curriculum study, American Library Association. Dr Bostwick presided and the certificates were given out by Mrs L. E. Chittenden, a member of the Library Board.

Eighteen of the students have received appointments.

A. E. B.

Simmons College

The twenty-second commencement of Simmons College was held on June 13, 1927, and at that time the degree of Bachelor of Science was conferred on 48 students from the School of library science. Certificates were given to two students who had their B. S. degree from other schools in Simmons.

It is with a great deal of regret that the Simmons College library school learns of the death of Pattie McGlohon, Simmons spec. '26, on June 10. She was for some time in the Children's department of the Savannah public library previous to her year of study at Simmons.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,
Director.

University of Washington

The annual banquet of the University of Washington Library School alumni association was held in the Commons on May 28. The president, Doris Hopkins, welcomed the class of 1927 into the fold of the alumni. Mr Smith, associate-librarian, introduced the principal speaker, Miss Ruth Worden, the new professor of library science. Miss Worden gave her impressions of the Northwest and her first year in the University of Washington library school. Miss Helen Remsberg of Olympia spoke of the state situation in library work. The following officers were elected:

President, Elva L. Batcheller; vice-president, Rosamond Frew; secretary, Olive Swain; treasurer, Mrs Marjorie

Lewis; publicity manager, Eleanor Pineo.

The graduates of the University of Washington library school are placing a clock in the beautiful new reading room of the University library in honor of Dean William E. Henry. It will hang above the reference desk framed in bronze and silvered steel and inscribed with Dean Henry's name and the year of presentation, 1927.

A demand for librarians has come to the school from all sections of the United States and Canada as well as the Northwest, and as usual the demand far exceeds the supply. There are still unfilled positions with no available candidates to suggest. The members of the graduating class of 1927 have all received appointments.

W. E. HENRY,
Dean

Western Reserve University

Following the two weeks of students' block practice in May, the schedule has included lectures on County Library work by Margaret E. Wright, librarian of the County department of the Cleveland public library; and by Francis E. Cady, of the Nela Park research library, Cleveland, and president of the Special Libraries association, on Special library work. Mrs Ledbetter gave two lectures on Library work with the foreign born, and Miss Elizabeth Richards, librarian of the College for women, W. R. U., spoke on College library work. Special visitors to the school during the month were: Mary Eileen Ahern, editor of LIBRARIES, who spoke on some things librarians should know in preparing material for publication; Jennie M. Flexner, of the Louisville public library, whose textbook on the circulation department is now in preparation, discussed this subject in her talk to the students; and Mrs Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen, spoke on Norse mythology and also on the art of storytelling, to the students in Children's work.

The students made the visit of observation to the Toledo public library

and the Detroit public library. Some of the group also visited the University of Michigan library at Ann Arbor.

The entrance examinations for undergraduates were given May 27 and 28.

The events of commencement week consisted of the Founders Day exercises on Tuesday, June 14, with address by Mr Adam Strohm, librarian of the Detroit public library, on "Objectives." The annual dinner of the Alumni association of the school was given in the evening. The general University commencement, including all professional schools, was held on Thursday, June 16, the address being given by Dr Frank LeRond McVey, president of the University of Kentucky.

The School of library science graduated the largest class in its history and for the first time conferred the degree of B. S. in Library Science on those who entered the school as college graduates. This step followed logically the reclassification of the school during the year as a graduate as well as an undergraduate school. The class of 1927 consists of 70 members. Of these 22 were in the graduate group, representing five years of preparation; 29 received certificates in the General course (including 9 in Junior children's course), and 19 in the Senior course in Library work with children. All students graduating also became members of the A. L. A.

ALICE S. TYLER
Dean

University of Wisconsin

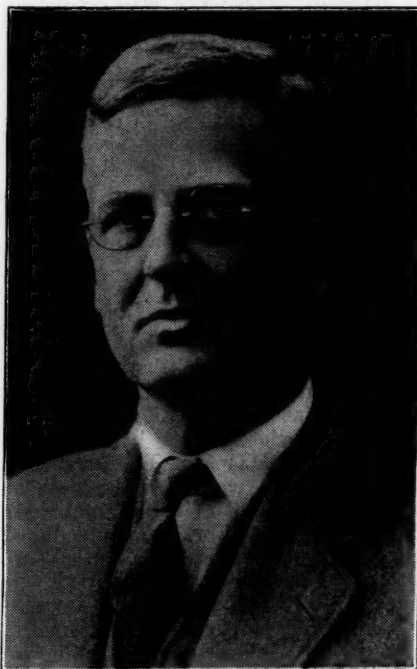
The pressure of last things in the school year is necessarily in evidence including the completion of subject bibliographies, reviews, final examinations, and preparation for commencement. Appointments for next year have been in the air thruout the spring, and the class have been advantageously placed in the following positions in 11 states—15 in Wisconsin, three in Ohio, two each in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, and one each in

California, Connecticut, Iowa, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

An announcement has been issued of the McGill University library school open at McGill University, September, 1927. Requirements for admission and the course of study follow the lines of the schools already established. The director of the school will be Dr G. R. Lomer, librarian of McGill University, and Mary Duncan Carter, B. L. S., N. Y. S., will be assistant professor of library administration. Other members of the faculty will be added later.

University of Chicago

Prof George Alan Works of Cornell University has been appointed dean of



George Alan Works

the Graduate library school of the University of Chicago. He joined the faculty of the university, July 1.

Prof Works, in association with President Capon of the University of Buf-

falo, recently completed an investigation of library problems in colleges and universities, and for many years has been active in survey work, in which he has shown unusual organizing ability. He received a Ph.B. degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1904, and M. S. degree in 1912, and an Ed.D. degree from Harvard.

Prof. Works was superintendent of schools in Wisconsin until 1911, after which he taught at the universities of Wisconsin and Minnesota, becoming professor of rural education at Cornell in 1914. At Cornell he was chairman of the University division of Education. He was director of the rural schools survey in New York and director of the educational survey of Texas.

Still Another Test for a Training Class

The choosing of students for a library training class has usually been more or less of a hit-or-miss affair altho certain general points have always been consciously or subconsciously considered.

It is probably safe to say that every librarian expects an assistant who is a graduate of a training class to have 1) what is usually known as personality; 2) knowledge; 3) health; 4) intelligence; and 5) ability. The qualities, if they may be called such, are listed in the above order because history shows that that is the way the tests for applicants were developed.

Quite evidently "personality" was considered either of prime importance or possibly as embracing all the other qualities, for we find that the "interview" was the earliest method of selection. Even today in some cases it is relied upon almost entirely and in many cases where it is not the only method used, it is considered one of the most important, if not the most important one.

There seems never to have been much question that it would be assumed that if an applicant for a training class had slightly more than an average amount of knowledge for a person with her training and of a similar age, she

would make a good librarian. This somewhat naive assumption is shown clearly in the prevalence of the regulation entrance examination. This type of entrance test combined with the interview is probably almost universally used.

Some libraries have not been content to take visual evidence alone in the matter of physical fitness and require either a physician's certificate or an examination by their own medical officer to ascertain the physical fitness of the applicant. This practice does not seem to be so universal as the others and is quite possibly due to the rules of the institutions conducting the training agency.

For a long time it has been suspected that a charming smile, a robust body, and a good memory are not the only essentials to good library work, so when the intelligence test came to the fore in other lines it naturally aroused a good deal of thotful interest among those librarians responsible for the selection of the librarians of the future.

"At present there is no evidence as to the existence of sufficient correlations between intelligence tests, the ability to successfully pursue occupational training and to subsequently succeed in the occupation, to warrant depending upon intelligence tests for selective purposes. It is, therefore, evident that a supervisor who at the present stage of experimental development advocated admission to or rejection from a vocational training course on the basis of 'I Q' tests would . . . be very liable to find himself sooner or later in an embarrassing situation."¹

It is because the use of the intelligence test is still in the experimental stage that such articles as that by Miss Reese in the May number of *LIBRARIES* is so valuable. The sooner we can get definite information along this line the sooner we will be able to judge just how important a part the use of this particular test should play.

¹Wright and Allen. Supervision of vocational education, p. 48.

As Miss Reese says, a number of libraries have experimented with such tests but have not shared their knowledge. If the tests have proved successful in some places and not in others, may it not be that the best test has not always been used or may it not be that it has not always been correctly given? They are so delightfully simple to give and take that much time and nerve energy could be saved were they found to be reliable.

Up to date, the quotation given above expresses our experience, but that, of course, may not be usual, and is certainly not that of Denver. It is to be devoutly hoped that more experimenters will make their results available as has Miss Reese so that everyone may benefit.

The one certain conclusion that has been reached is that the fifth point necessary in a librarian is not measured by any of the tests in use at present. This is *doing* ability—the intelligent application of knowledge to a given situation.

There are many charming, healthy, intelligent people who have acquired a certain amount of technical knowledge who are not good librarians because they have not the necessary ability to put all these qualities to use. Without that ability, they are of less than no value so that it seems that in this particular, some means of testing applicants should be devised.

It is an expensive thing to let a student begin his training only to request his withdrawal at a later date, for while he ceases to cause expense of training, he is costing the loss of one who might have been a successful worker.

When all is said, is it not the object of a library training class, as of any other, to teach the student so that he may reach the level of *doing* ability?

AGNES F. P. GREER

Director

Training class
Public library, Chicago.

A Library Survey of British Columbia

The Public Library commission of British Columbia is undertaking a survey of the library conditions in that province. The survey is unique among such enterprises in that it has no money to support it. Work is being done voluntarily by those interested in the library movement. The research board consists of Dr Norman F. Black, John Ridington, librarian of the University of British Columbia, and Mr E. S. Robinson, librarian of the Public library, Vancouver. Coöperating with this group, called the Research board, are the Teachers' federation, the Parent Teachers association and similar bodies of province-wide organizations. There is also a council of widely known citizens, which includes several members of the legislature, to which the data secured by the commission will be submitted and which will discuss, modify, or approve the recommendations of the Research board, use its influence on the Government and the Provincial legislature, and generally sponsor and endorse and give publicity to the findings and recommendations. The work is progressing and it is hoped to have it completed before the legislature meets next winter.

The Commonwealth Fund fellowships amounting to \$125,000 have been awarded to 23 honor graduates of British universities, who are to come to the United States next fall to study in American universities. This is the third annual group of such awards and makes a total of 63 young scholars given opportunities this way for education and travel in the United States.

A provision of the fellowships is that the holders are required to travel widely in this country, attend meetings of various learned societies and come in contact with many eminent specialists in their field of work. Several points on the travels are the Ford plant, Chicago stock yards, New Orleans, Grand Canyon, Hollywood, Yellowstone Park, and a western rodeo.

Department of School Libraries

In proportion as society refines, new books must ever become more necessary.—Goldsmith.

Library Service for the Children of the Training School Department of a Normal School

Mary C. Richardson, head of Library department, State normal school, Geneseo, N. Y.

A group of normal school seniors were chatting together about a month before graduation indulging in reminiscences of the first impressions.

The thing which impressed me most when I came to Geneseo was the children's library with its fireplace, the Hiawatha pictures, the inviting window-seats with their overhanging ferns and the picture books with their beautiful illustrations.

Yes, answered another, this was the place that made the deepest impressions on me. I did so wish my little sister could have a room like this to read in.

The room in which the above conversation took place was formally opened 10 years ago as the Children's library and dedicated to the service of the children in the elementary and grammar grades of our Training school. As we look back to the beginning of this branch of our library work we are amazed to see how gradually it has grown. Little by little the responsibility for the "Library Hour" has passed from the teacher in charge of the class to the librarian in charge of the library room. We have very gradually changed from allowing no books to go out of the library to a circulation this last year of 11,600v. The greatest change of all and the most difficult to define is in the character of the work done during the "Library Hour."

In many normal schools designed to meet the needs of the elementary school teachers, no provision is made for the library needs of the children in the training school. Even in some new normal school plants erected within the last few years supposedly with the idea of being adapted to modern educational ideas, we look in vain for a modern school library for the elemen-

tary and grammar grades. Since the normal schools attempt to set up standards for the other schools of the State this raises the question of whether or not the library is a necessary part of a modern school system. If the answer is "yes," then the very best school libraries in the State should be found in the normal schools. If the library is valuable to the high schools, and this is pretty generally admitted today, we believe that library service in its finest and truest sense is vastly important in the elementary and junior high schools. The elementary school has the children at the most impressionable ages, the age when habits formed will become a vital part of the individual. The children in the elementary school are eager for new knowledge. They appreciate learning how to obtain that knowledge for themselves thru the use of library tools. They are naturally great readers, with now and then a striking exception, but they need to be guided in order to make the most of this love of reading and to grow in the right direction. Then, too, since the use of the library is an important factor in developing American citizens, we can not afford to leave the library out of our elementary schools, for a large percentage of our future citizens leave school without entering upon a high-school curriculum.

In addition to these ultimate aims which make the library a necessary part of the equipment of an elementary school, there is a more immediate demand which renders it almost indispensable. This demand is well stated in "Elementary School Library Standards,"* the pamphlet prepared by a joint committee of the A. L. A. and the N. E. A. "Modern demands upon the public school presuppose adequate library service. Significant changes in methods of teaching require that the

*A. L. A. 1925.

school library supplement the single textbook course of instruction and provide for the enrichment of the school curriculum," is found in the introduction to this report. It suggests further, that this newer, richer school library has a dual function, that of library service and of library instruction—the former being "the one agency in the school which makes possible the definite, systematic regulation and control of the materials of instruction." In passing let us commend the report for its definiteness and richness of detail. It even goes so far as to tell us in the chapter entitled "Elementary school library defined in dollars and cents," under Series 1, Rural Schools:

"School E is a rural consolidated school with a room set aside for the housing of the library. The enrollment is 700. A teacher librarian is in charge, giving at least half of her time to the library and the other half to teaching in the schoolroom." A description of room and equipment follows, with the final statement that including half the librarian's salary and all expenses of the equipment, books, magazines, etc. "The average cost per pupil annually is \$1.53." Such library service would surely meet the needs of modern education.

The fact that today school librarians are not alone in claiming that the elementary school needs a library is one of the most hopeful signs of the times. The report made by Dr William F. Russell on "The School Library Situation"* illustrates this fact. School librarians may well give thanks that such an educational leader as Dr Russell is willing to stand back of their cause. They owe him a vote of thanks for placing before the public such testimonies from well-known superintendents of schools as are presented in this report. One or two references to the elementary school situation are appropriate to the present discussion.

Supt. Glenn, of Birmingham, Alabama, is quoted as saying "Our elementary schools are organized on

the platoon plan, and we desire that our librarian shall be, first of all, a good teacher who possesses a love for books and is capable of arousing an interest in them on the part of her pupils."

This sentence clearly implies a librarian and a library in their elementary schools even if the phrase "platoon school" alone did not suggest this.

Supt. Wilson, of Berkeley, says, "The change which is going on in the library situation in Berkeley at this time is the gradual extension and development of working central libraries in our elementary schools. During the last three or four years, working central libraries have been established in the junior high schools. With the building of some of our new elementary schools this movement gained headway in the elementary schools also."

The opinion of Supt. Jones, of Cleveland, is clearly shown in this sentence from his comments, "We hope later to induce the Board of Education to provide a room in the larger elementary schools for library use." Supt. Newlon, of Denver, says "American public schools are just awakening to the importance of school libraries," and Supt. Beveridge of Omaha crowns the whole with "The library is the largest single socializing influence in the school that touches the academic side of the child's life."

The normal school library is rendering a valuable service to the children of the training school if it provides "a room set apart, and books, and a library teacher, someone who combines knowledge of books and library technique with sufficient knowledge of educational methods to make the library an integral part of the school's educational scheme. . . ." Both the immediate aim of good teaching and the ultimate aim of helping to make good American citizens demand working central libraries in our elementary schools and junior high schools and no

*American Library Association. *Bulletin*, Vol. 21, No. 7, p. 181.

**School and Society*. July 24, 1926.

normal school can afford today to be without a high type of library service for the children of our training schools.

The problem of location is puzzling and complex owing to the fact that this library is not only for the benefit of the children but also that prospective teachers may work in a school library and see it working at its best. Some claim that it should be closely connected with the main library, easily accessible to normal school students, and that it should be in charge of a member of the staff of the main library. Others feel that it should be a part of the training school plant, centrally located with regard to the home rooms of the children. Mr Kerr says it should be located preferably near the main library. We feel that as yet there has not been sufficient experience to foretell the most practical solution, tho it would be fairly easy to set up standards, providing unlimited funds were at our disposal for rooms, equipment and salaries. Possibly an intermediate library for the grammar grades or junior high school located in the training school and a children's room located near the main library, for the use of the younger children, may be the solution. In working out the problem in the future, two things must not be overlooked—one a fact, the other a warning. The training school exists primarily for the observation and practice of normal school students, prospective teachers. An isolated school library, located in the training school plant, if it is not presided over by a skilled librarian and teacher, is almost sure to develop, so experience tells us, into a mere collection of books. The normal school library may serve the children of the training school by seeing to it that the type of service which it gives is genuine library service and not the kind which will result in the children having a wrong ideal of what real library service is.

The best type of service rendered to the children in the training school is based upon certain fundamental assumptions. a) that the children have

a library of their own, b) that their schedule allows them at least one hour a week for the library, and c) that there is on the library staff a library teacher in the newest and truest sense of that phrase. A few of the objectives for the library teacher to keep in mind are a) teaching little children library courtesy, correct habits of handling books, b) helping children to form right attitudes in regard to other people's property, c) guiding the children in their reading, helping them to find the very best books they are capable of absorbing and enjoying, taking each child wherever she finds him and leading him step by step to the finest and best in literature, d) teaching children to depend on reading as a means of enjoying leisure time, and e) helping children to acquire skill in the use of library tools. In other words, she aims to help children to become intelligent readers of good literature, wise investors in the use of leisure time, independent workers in acquiring knowledge, and altogether, good citizens, appreciative of the rights of others and careful of other people's property.

A few devices used in Geneseo, during the past year, may illustrate some of the above objectives. Not very many suggestions are as yet available in print, but wherever we have been able to find an idea we have borrowed liberally. The Dalton plan of assigning a job to the children has been used frequently: a test and a check up of characters in children's books used in Colorado have furnished interest to the children and ideas to us.

When the children in junior high school tired of writing book reviews for their English teachers, the following sheet to be checked was handed them by the librarian with the suggestion that for a time, at least, they check the items on the sheet instead of writing reviews.

Check beside the word which best describes the various aspects of the book.

- A The book
1 Title
2 Author

- 3 Make-up
 - a) general attractiveness (good, fair, poor)
 - b) type (medium, too large, too small)
 - c) paper (thin, shiny, porous)
 - d) illustrations (well drawn, unsuitable, colored, black and white)
 - e) binding (reinforced, loose, tight)
- 4 Contents
 - a) subject matter (good, mediocre, poor)
 - b) type of story

adventure	animal
mystery	sea
home	school
historical	biographical
scientific	fairy
Indian	mythological
nature	travel
 - c) names of characters
 - d) setting of story

B Check up

- 1 Would you recommend this book to someone else?
- 2 If so, why? If not, why not?

This is a form similar to one Miss Damon had previously used in teaching Children's books to normal school students. The children seemed enthusiastic and happy in performing this task.

(Other plans of interesting the children used by Miss Richardson will be given later.—*Editor, LIBRARIES.*)

Extension Service of University and College Libraries

Extension library service is carried on in a number of ways—by county libraries as in California, by the extension division of the state library as in Maine, Ohio, Indiana and Oregon, by the public library commission as in Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey and Vermont, by the extension division of the state university as in Kansas and Texas, by individual public libraries and by state college and university libraries. In some states, the state university or college library virtually takes the place of the public library commission while in others it works alongside and with the public library commission. In an effort to find out how far extension work had been carried by the various state university and college libraries and looking for suggestions of benefit to the University of New Hampshire library, a questionnaire was sent out to 60 state

university and college libraries. Replies were received from 44 libraries and these indicate a wide divergence of practice from the State College of Iowa and the Universities of Georgia and North Carolina, where many lines of extension library service are carried on, to the Universities of Minnesota and Rutgers (New Jersey) which leave such work to the public library commissions and university extension divisions.

In order to conserve space, the various university and college libraries from whom replies were received are here given numbers which will be followed in giving the results of the questionnaire.

1. Arkansas, 2. California, 3. Delaware, 4. Georgia, 5. Illinois, 6. Indiana, 7. Purdue, 8. Iowa, 9. Iowa State College, 10. Kansas, 11. Louisiana, 12. Maine, 13. Maryland, 14. Massachusetts Agricultural, 15. Michigan, 16. Minnesota, 17. Mississippi A. & M., 18. Missouri, 19. Montana, 20. Nebraska, 21. Nevada, 22. New Hampshire, 23. Rutgers (New Jersey), 24. New Mexico, 25. New Mexico A. & M., 26. Cornell (New York), 27. North Carolina, 28. North Dakota, 29. Ohio State, 30. Miami (Ohio), 31. Oklahoma, 32. Oregon, 33. Oregon Agricultural, 34. Penn. State, 35. Rhode Island, 36. South Carolina, 37. South Dakota, 38. Texas, 39. Texas A. & M., 40. Virginia, 41. Virginia Polytechnic, 42. Washington, 43. West Virginia.

Thirty-seven state college and university libraries loan books to people anywhere in the state, either in package library form or as miscellaneous books, including numbers 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 43. Most of the replies specified that resident students had first call on the miscellaneous books.

Twenty-five libraries loaned books for study to students in the extension division of the college, including numbers 1, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 42.

Thirty-two libraries supplied material for debating to the high schools of the state to a greater or less extent, including numbers 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25,

27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 37, 40, 41, 43.

Twenty-eight libraries furnished material for womans club papers, to individual members, including numbers 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37, 41, 43.

Fourteen libraries gave radio talks or extension lectures on the library and books, including numbers 1, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 19, 20, 24, 25, 28, 33, 39, 43.

Fifteen libraries gave reference service to manufacturers and industries in the state, including numbers 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 15, 22, 24, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 37.

Practically all the libraries loaned books to other libraries in the state and answered reference questions and problems in library matters from them.

Eighteen libraries gave instruction in library science or held institutes for the library workers in their state, including numbers 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16, 18, 21, 22, 25, 31, 36, 40, 42.

Eleven libraries had some part in campus gatherings such as Farmers Week, teachers meetings, etc., including numbers 1, 9, 15, 17, 22, 25, 27, 30, 31, 38, 39.

Eighteen libraries actively promoted high and elementary school libraries with trained workers in their states either thru their influence or thru training school librarians, including numbers 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 18, 19, 24, 27, 31, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 41, 43.

The Texas University library mentioned one other means of serving directly the people of the state thru the gathering of the Texas History collection. It is probable that many other state university libraries are doing a similar work for their state.

WILLARD P. LEWIS
University of New Hampshire

No. 3, Vol. 2 of *School Outlook*, the official publication of the Board of education of the public schools, South Bend, Ind., is devoted to the school library work that is very successfully carried on in that city. The high school libraries are maintained by the Public school and Public library authorities in coöperation.

News from the Field

East

The wedding of Louise Bradford, Simmons '24, to Dr Edward Haskew Robertson, on June 27, in Waltham, is announced.

The library of the late Senator N. W. Aldrich of Rhode Island, has been presented to the Harvard School of business administration.

Mrs Sarah F. Gregory, on May 8, entered upon the fiftieth year of her service of the Abbott library of Marblehead, Massachusetts. She began her work in the library in May, 1878, as assistant-librarian, and on the death of the librarian, Mrs Mary G. Brown, in 1905, she was appointed her successor. Mrs Gregory is a great favorite with the large and ever changing population of Marblehead as well as with a large number of native residents.

A gift of \$9500 to the Silas Bronson library, Waterbury, Conn., was used to carry out an extensive improvement plan. The children's department was moved to quarters two and one-half times larger. The former children's room has been assigned to an industrial department which is growing in popularity.

Expenditures, \$68,461—66 cents per capita; books on shelves, 127,626; circulation, 407,787v. There was a loss in the total circulation on account of discontinuance of sending collections to grammar schools near branch stations or because of poor circulation. About 2000v. in archeology, art, natural history and travel, which were acquired 40 years ago when it was that the city library should be scholarly rather than popular, have been sold.

A digest of the report of the Public library, Bridgeport, Conn., by Orlando C. Davis, librarian, is as follows: Circulation, 1,146,278v.; borrowers, 35,213; book accessions, 21,131; books in library, 238,801; regular periodicals, 1329; regular expenditures, \$174,166. A new central building was completed in April, 1927. Among the new features in the Central library is a special room for Senior high-school students.

Central Atlantic

Linn Jones, Simmons spec. '11-'12, has accepted the position of librarian of the Public library, Chatham, N. J.

Isabelle Hurlbutt, Simmons '16, has been appointed editorial assistant in the Public library of the District of Columbia, Washington.

Dorothy L. Hull, Pratt '25, has been appointed librarian of the Horace Mann school in New York.

Mr H. R. Datz returned to the Library Bureau division of Remington Rand, Incorporated, in his former position as manager of the Library Sales department; June 1.

Mr H. O. Parkinson, for some time librarian of the Public library, Stockton, California, and later engaged in business in that city, has joined the staff of the New York public library.

Grace Thornton, Pratt '25, formerly on the staff of the Brooklyn public library, has been appointed assistant librarian of the Public library, Madison, N. J.

Zana K. Miller has resigned as librarian of Chazy Central rural school, Chazy, N. Y. She will have charge of the training class in the Public library, Albany, N. Y., during July and August.

Mary M. Sullivan, Pratt '25, acting children's librarian of the Hudson Park branch of the New York public library, has taken the position of reference librarian in the public library, Binghamton, N. Y.

Ralph L. Thompson, N. Y. P. L. '23, chief of the order and accessions division of the Public library of the District of Columbia, has been appointed librarian of the Mount Pleasant branch library.

The thirtieth annual report of the Public library, Buffalo, N. Y., records a distribution of 2,496,134v., an increase of 10 per cent. There are 150,018 borrowers cards, and 56,000 school children borrow from the classrooms. There are 500,489 books on the shelves. There is a crying need for more space

in the central building. There are 10 branch libraries in active operation, but nine schools in the city are not equipped with classroom libraries. Several of these are near branch libraries. In addition, there are 191 small collections thruout various parts of the city.

The retirement of Mary G. Briggs, who was on the opening staff of the Buffalo public library, is mentioned with regret. The fine minutes of the Board of directors on the retirement of Mrs H. L. Elmendorf is made a part of the report.

The one hundred ninth report of the New York state library contains the last report of the State Library school. The history of the 40 years of work at the school was reviewed in the commencement address by the director; J. I. Wyer. The report of the library records: Books on the shelves, 537,483; pamphlets, 6835.

The annual report of the Osterhout free library, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., records: Circulation, 332,973v.; books on shelves, 69,722. Many gifts have been received during the year. The most popular books in the *Reading with a Purpose* series were: Psychology, English literature, Philosophy, Great American books, Ears to hear, and Conflicts in American public opinion.

The report of the Public library, Albany, N. Y., records: Circulation, 433,042v., a gain of 10 per cent. Increases which contributed to this gain were: in philosophy and psychology, including education and child study, 46 per cent; technology and business, 36 per cent; religion, 31 per cent; art, including music, 29 per cent. The gain in use among adults of books other than fiction was 21 per cent; increase in fiction, seven per cent.

A collection of 400 titles, fiction and non-fiction, of books written for adults but within the range of boys and girls from 14-18 is proving popular. There is a decided increase in the work with children both in the library and school rooms.

The biennial report of the Pennsylvania state library is called a story of restriction, in order to live within the budget allowance, and of plans for the future. The library was practically reorganized, the principal changes being:

- 1) Concentration in the administrative section under the director. The assistant-director was given the responsibility for developing the museum while the responsibility of special sections was given to the heads of the same.
- 2) A general cleaning up and clearing out of certain places have made for more space particularly needed in the library.
- 3) The enforced retrenchment, it is stated, was exercised in the amount of service given without diminution of funds for books, museum material and other necessities.
- 4) Four sections gave up one employee each.
- 5) A monthly staff meeting of the heads of departments and an occasional meeting of the whole staff with the director were held.
- 6) Coördinating the work of the state library with the departmental libraries of the state resulted in eliminating unnecessary duplication. The general library was reorganized and put in charge of trained experienced librarians.

The first inventory since the reorganization of the library in 1899 was finished. The result showed 15,081 books unaccounted for. This is not definitely accurate since many records were missing. The binding and mending, and also the periodicals, were placed in charge of experts. The staff of the reference department was enlarged by the employment of experienced and trained people. The use of the library for children was restricted to those of high-school age. Much care was given to the special collection of Pennsylvania history and genealogy.

Total number of books in the library, 217,298; circulation, 68,814. The needs of the general library are more catalogers, more equipment and larger appropriation for books.

The report of the library extension department expresses regret that on account of the cut in appropriation it is

necessary to curtail the work, which makes it impossible to maintain satisfactorily the work of the department. Service is divided into field work, county library development and library service to individuals.

The annual report of the Public library, Jersey City, N. J., for 1926 records: Circulation, 1,529,519v., 4.81 per capita; reference use, 451,852v.; pictures lent, 10,169; attendance in reading and reference room, 811,894; registered borrowers, 115,435; books on the shelves, 280,785. A new branch building costing \$256,000 was opened to the public. An enlargement of the main building as now planned will increase its size by 50 per cent. Two high-school branches and one in the city hospital were opened. The exhibitions in the library building, both permanent and temporary, have stimulated much interest and increased attendance. Distributing agencies: one main building, 10 branches, eight delivery stations, deposits in schools, industrial plants, community centers, fire-houses, etc. Receipts for the year, \$263,310. This includes appropriation for the enlargement of the main building, \$25,500. Expenditures, \$253,277, of which \$33,375 was for books; \$2272, periodicals; \$8106, binding; \$6666, heat; \$6295, lights; \$145,724, salaries.

The annual report of the New York public library for 1926 has a note of cheerfulness, omitted in the reports of the past few years. An increase of some \$350,000 in the city appropriation allowed the library to make encouraging progress in the rehabilitation of its depleted book stock. The effect of five lean years will not be overcome for two years more, but the service to the public shows decided improvement.

The circulating department had an increase of 44,000v. on the shelves during year, giving a total of 1,151,893v. Circulation for home use amounted to 9,411,167v., an increase of 329,828. Steady growth is reported in the reference work thruout the branch libraries. There was a decrease in the circulation of books in foreign lan-

guages explained in part, perhaps, by the restriction of immigration, tho the rehabilitation of the English collections may have had much to do with it.

The instability of population groupings was shown by decreased registration of school children on the lower east side of Manhattan with a decrease in the use of books. An increase in demands in other localities was shown in the libraries in the Bronx and Richmond. High Bridge branch, little more than a country library, now in a crowded apartment house district shows an increased demand on its service. The currents of public interest are shown in the demands on the branches. At the Fifty-eighth Street branch, there is a growing demand for books on the art of the theater and on music.

The Municipal Reference library was able, thru increased appropriation, to make important additions to its collection and to develop its reference work.

The reference department of the Central building shows decided need of more space for books and readers. There is a demand also for more space in the book stacks. In the main reading room, over 4000v. a day were delivered to readers on 44 days. On one day, the number ran up to 6170v. In one winter month there were more readers in the main reading room than seats. These conditions call for effective remedies. There were 1,681,059 recorded as using books in the reference department which supplied them with 3,521,611v., a considerable increase over the previous year. In addition, there are thousands of books which are consulted without any application.

The report notes the close of the Library school opened in 1911 and the inauguration of a training class, with Miss Alice G. Higgins as principal, for training young people for positions on the staff of the library.

An important addition to the library came from the Carnegie Corporation in the Arthur A. Schomburg collection of books relating to Negro life and art.

Central

Cecile Watson, Pratt '14, has been appointed to the staff of the Cincinnati public library.

Georgia S. Osborne, formerly assistant librarian of the Illinois State historical library, has been appointed librarian of that institution.

Miss Greta Lagro, who has been librarian of the Public library, Superior, Wisconsin, since July, 1926, has resigned her position.

Elizabeth Merritt and Annah Marie Smith, Drexel '27, have accepted positions as junior high-school librarians in the Public School system, Lakewood, Ohio.

Virginia M. Tutt, for more than 30 years librarian of the Public library, South Bend, Ind., died after a brief illness at her home in that city, May 30.

Fay Hart, B. L. S., Illinois, '26, has resigned her position in charge of the Reserve Book room, University of Illinois library, to accept a position on the staff of the Public library, Hibbing, Minnesota.

The annual report of the Public library, Dubuque, Iowa, records: Circulation, 289,394v.; appropriation, \$22,622; number of agencies, a central library, seven stations, and 26 schools; books on shelves, 47,863.

The annual report of the Public library, East Chicago, Indiana, records: Circulation, 174,916v.; population served, 47,300; books on the shelves, 28,363; registered borrowers, 4737; income, \$42,182; expenditures—salaries, \$16,877; books, \$7874; maintenance per capita, 78 cents.

The Public library of Toledo, Ohio, is the recipient of a bequest of \$100,000 as a perpetual endowment to be known as the "Edward Drummond Libbey library fund." The income from this is to be expended only in the purchase of books. It will be limited to the purchase of books, other than novels, periodicals and newspapers, of

such a character as will promote the industries, the business life, the beautifying of the city and its homes, and increase the appreciation by the citizens of the beautiful in art and literature.

The John Toman branch of the Chicago public library was opened with appropriate exercises on June 18. The building was open for inspection in the evening when the neighborhood took full advantage to see their new library. Circulation began on the morning of June 20.

The annual report of the Public library of Marshalltown, Iowa, records: Circulation, 114,957v.; borrowers, 7776; books on the shelves, 21,017. This library does county service with several branches thruout the county. In addition, there are four school libraries and classroom, hospital and camp libraries. Receipts, \$11,409; disbursement, \$11,246, of which the expenditure for books was \$3308 and for salaries, \$4879.

The Fairmount Park branch of the Public library, Sioux City, Iowa, was dedicated, June 6. This was the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Sioux City library and was marked by the opening of the first branch library erected by the city. A \$100,000 bond issue was voted at the general election in 1926 to erect several branch buildings for the city. The reports and photographs of the new building are most attractive.

The report of the library of Oberlin College, Ohio, opens with the annual wail as to the crowded condition of the stacks, and closes saying that the arrangement is thoroly unsatisfactory to both the library staff and to the users of the library. The crowded condition of the library is dwelt upon at length and a plea is made for provision of money for an addition to relieve the situation.

Additions to the library reached 50,591, counting maps, prints, newspapers and pamphlets. Bound volumes in the library, 274,244 with 150,000 duplicates in addition. The library secured

the past year 100 prints of the famous Audubon "Birds of America," elephant folio edition.

The report of the University of Chicago library shows: Expenditures—books, \$54,319; binding, \$16,431; books added, 56,116; volumes cataloged, 62,976, besides many pamphlets, maps, manuscripts, portraits and pieces of sheet music. Volumes lent to other institutions, 2002. The cost of printing cards averaged 60 cents a title. Number of readers: In Harper, 879,723; in six of the 16 departmental libraries and reading rooms, 325,393; total, 1,205,116.

When the new divinity building opened, 20,000v. on religion and theology were withdrawn from the General library and merged with other collections on the same subject, previously housed elsewhere, and placed in the new building. The need of adequate cataloging makes satisfactory administration a difficult problem.

The following gifts were received: 82v. of manuscripts from Miss Shirley Farr; 550v. from Dr Harry Pratt Judson; 1500 v. from Dr Albion W. Small. An anonymous donor gave \$4000 received by him from the Government during the war. From a part of this fund the George E. Hooker collection on city planning, transportation and housing was bought.

There were 22 appointments and 20 resignations.

South

Charles H. Stone, B. L. S., Illinois, '16, has resigned the librarianship of the George Peabody College for Teachers at Nashville, Tennessee, to accept the librarianship of the North Carolina College for Women at Greensboro.

The third annual report of the Public library, Richmond, Virginia, records a circulation of 223,033v.; borrowers, 18,272, nine per cent of the population; book stock, 36,796. It has a levy of 27 cents per capita. Number of agencies: 74—a main library, one colored branch, three deposit stations, four hospital and 65 classrooms in 15 grade schools. Number of staff, 16—nine part time. Appropriation, \$54,444; expenditures,

\$26,403 for salaries, \$12,841 for books, and \$3641 for binding.

West

Mildred Camp, B. L. S., Illinois, '24, has resigned her position in charge of the Ricker Architectural library at the University of Illinois and will have charge of the circulation department, Kansas State agricultural college, Manhattan.

The annual report of the Public library, Wichita, Kansas, records: 34,083 registered borrowers; circulation, 398,790v.; books on the shelves, 48,222. An interesting piece of work is that of the reference department which is indexing the daily issues of the two leading papers of the town. In return, the papers are furnishing bound volumes to be kept permanently in the library.

The report of Joanna H. Sprague, librarian of Salt Lake City public library, records: Circulation, 721,754v., a gain of 60,098v., double the gain of any previous year; addition of books, 10,200. The Children's room reports increased use by parents and teachers with large increase in circulation of easy books. About 9500 were distributed among the schools; books were sent to the City playgrounds, Girls Scout camp, Community camp and to telephone exchanges. Library service was given weekly to four hospitals and a reading room for the blind was maintained in the main library.

Pacific Coast

Warren L. Perry, Illinois, '24-26, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Tacoma, Washington.

Jane A. Craig, B. L. S., Illinois, '09, will have charge of the technical library in agriculture at the University of California Farm, Davis, Cal., during the absence of Nelle U. Branch, B. L. S., '16, who has a leave of absence for six months and will take a trip around the world.

The many friends of Dr George Watson Cole will rejoice in the honor which has come to him in an honorary membership in the Bibliographical So-

ciety in London. The honor is conferred in recognition of his long continued service for bibliography, and it is the highest honor which the Society at present is able to bestow. Dr Cole is librarian emeritus of the Huntington library, San Marino, Cal.

The wonderful library of the late Henry E. Huntington is to be opened to the people of America and particularly to those of the state of California. More than fifty million dollars was spent on the library and more than twice that sum on the art collection which includes many art rarities. The collection contains the most complete Americana in existence. It has originals of noted American productions—letters of Washington, Lincoln, Lee and other eminent Americans. First editions and original manuscripts of American writers are more complete, perhaps, than any other collection in America. These extend all the way from the early American dime novels, which are unknown to the majority of Americans today, to early editions of the Revolutionary writers and the period before and after the Civil war.

Canada

The annual report of the Public library, Toronto, records: Main agencies, 4; branches, 14, 13 occupying separate buildings; number of books on shelves, 450,722; number of volumes lent for home use, 2,180,136; registered borrowers, 185,630. No account is taken of the use of books in the reference room, or in the Municipal reference library, both busy centers. Receipts, for the year, \$376,840; expenditures—books, freight and maps, \$50,015; periodicals, \$3186; binding and book repair, \$15,244; library service salaries, \$213,362.

The report is extensive and definite, the reports from the departments being prepared and signed by the heads of the same.

Wanted—Children's librarian with some experience. Position open Sept. 1. State qualifications. Address, Public Library, Beloit, Wis.